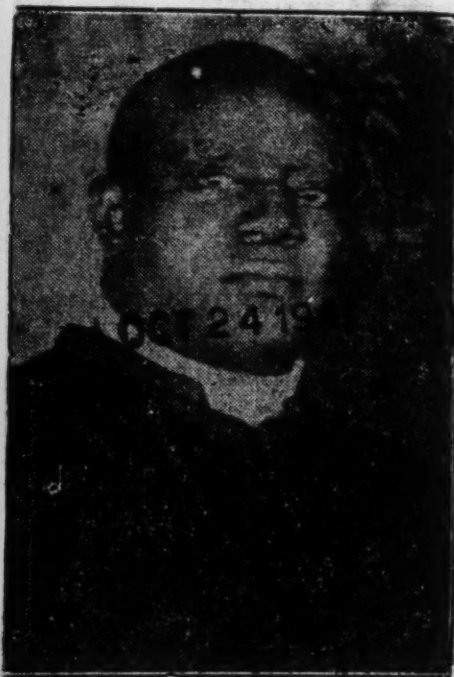


Wants Black Cops



you think would happen if one of your men were to serve on a jury and a colored man was indicted?" I think he would do the right thing regardless of color. you think your men are capable of serving in such a capacity? asked Mr. Riley. Bishop Shaw replied the affirmative. We have with every degree of education, men who are intelligent, men who are willing to give their lives if need be to help fallen humanity. There are Negro policemen in other states who have done much for the race why can't we have them here?

Mr. Riley was very cordial; after hearing such a speech from Bishop Shaw, decided to give him another hearing on his return to the city.

Bishop Shaw cannot win this battle alone. As citizens you are asked to give your loyal support to this effort. By so doing you are doing your part for National Defense, by making this a more desirable place in which to live.

Bishop B. G. Shaw, presiding Bishop of Alabama A.M.E. Zion Church, presiding over the other than Methodist. He is a very civic-minded man. As a result, is a staunch believer in all the things that make for better citizens in all communities.

Last week Bishop Shaw visited Chief of Police Riley to ask his aid in securing better civic conditions among Negroes. Bishop Shaw came right to the point and told Mr. Riley this could be done by adding Negro policemen to the force. Mr. Riley was completely shocked at this statement, and asked, "Why do you think Negro policemen can and will do so much for your people?" First, replied Bishop Shaw, "A Negro policeman will lift the moral standards of a community. Negro youth will look on him being an ideal, and naturally try to follow him. Second, Negro man knows his people, knows their needs, he understands their emotions; and he will feel his duty to do all he can for the people, whereas, the white policemen does not have the time to give these needy people. I believe race policemen will help less crime." Mr. Riley asked, "What

Globe and
Independent

Nashville, Tenn.

COLORED OFFICERS ARE LIEUTENANTS IN LOS ANGELES

JAN 10 1941 Police Chief Elevates Earl Broady And Roscoe Washington To High Positions

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 9 (By Harry Levette for ANP)—Marking a milestone of important history in the annals of the local group, Earl C. Broady and Roscoe C. Washington, Los Angeles' first colored lieutenants of police, started on their duties last Thursday. Announcement of their having at last won actual places with the accompanying salaries accorded the office was made a week before by Chief of Police Arthur C. Hohmann.

Both officers have complied exceptionally fine records during their years of service. Comparatively young men, they are very studious so during the 15 years of Washington's and Broady's 12 year career, they have consistently taken the examinations.

But during several past administrations they were never appointed. However, both have served as acting lieutenants and acting sergeants but these were merely empty honors at no increase in salaries. But this year with the appointment of 35 new sergeants and eight new lieutenants, Chief Hohmann fairly and impartially gave the two colored officers the assignments their ratings on the list called for.

With the appointment of Broady and Washington to the morning watch the Negro personnel was again concentrated until they have now 13 colored officers working under their jurisdiction.

These are Charles Wheeler, dispatch clerk; A. D. Johnson, desk sergeant; T. A. Hamilton, jailer; T. J. Collins and B. L. Hoskins, traffic investigators; with Officers Moore, Pettiford, Holmes, Kimbrough, Reed and Slaughter operat-

ing radio prowler cars. Stanley and Dynn are on foot patrol. Mrs. Harriet White is the morning stenographer.

Claims White Policemen Resent Colored Superiors

FEB 7 1941

Therefore Los Angeles Police Chief Declines to Schedule Negro Officers So that Whites Will Have to Take Orders from Them.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 30.—Chief of Police Arthur Hohmann evidently has never heard the saying "when in Rome do as the Romans do," otherwise he would not have made the statement that "white officers from other sections of the country do not like to serve under Negroes, here."

The chief of police answered this last Tuesday night at a meeting held at the 28th Street YMCA, when questioned by Lawrence F. LaMar, veteran reporter, as to the now famous "Black Command" at Newton Street police station.

Recently Roscoe Washington, uncle to Kenny Washington, the grid ace, and Earl Broady passed the severe sergeants and lieutenant examinations and were high on the list. It resulted in these two officers being appointed lieutenants and assigned to the Newton Street police station on the same watch. Their tour of duty begins at 1 a.m. until 9 in the morning. Oddly enough, there are no white officers under the command of these two Negro commanding officers.

Police Chief Hohmann does not know that Lieuts. William I. Middleton and John (now a captain) Scott were in command of police stations in Chicago. They had a command of both white and colored personnel for years. Scott, recently appointed a captain, has colored and white officers under his command.

Shift White Cops As 2 Race Chiefs Take Over Station

LOS ANGELES—Justification over the recent appointments of Roscoe C. Washington and Earl Broady as lieutenants of police, has diminished considerably as it has become apparent that the new officers are being shunted off of full duty such as is assigned other men of their rank.

At a meeting at the Twenty-eighth Street Y.M.C.A., Chief of Police Arthur D. Hohmann told the Seventh District Civic League that he was not able to govern white officers who did not wish to work under the Negro police lieutenants. Lieutenants Washington and Broady are assigned to the same shift at the Newton street police station, and for the first time in its history, there is not a white officer on that shift.

51-1941

Black Dispatch

Oklahoma City, Okl.

Los Angeles' First Colored Lieutenants of Police Begin Duties After Shakeup

Earl C. Broady and Roscoe C. Washington Are Appointed After Many Years of Service

Political Shakeup Causes Move

JAN 11 1941

By HARRY LEVETTE

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Washington and Broady are both located at Newton station in the heart of Central avenue Negro district. It is one of the most important stations in the city and until two years ago had a personnel predominantly Negro. Following the last election and a complete shakeup in the police department, the colored officers were scattered through several other stations.

With the appointment of Broady and Washington to the morning watch the Negro personnel was again concentrated until they have now 13 colored officers working

Kansas City Call

CALIFORNIA

Kansas City, Mo.

LOS ANGELES GETS POLICE LIEUTENANTS

JAN 10 1941

For First Time in History,

Negroes Appointed to

High Rank

By Harry Levette

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Local citizens are especially happy over the appointment for it seems to mark a change in the attitude of the administration toward colored citizens and towards colored officers in particular. For although the average Negro policeman is fearless and conscientious, there has always been a suspicion that they had in many instances been framed out of their rightful places on the lists following examinations. There had also long been whispers that certain catch questions were introduced in the oral part of the examinations in order to make it still more difficult for the dark-skinned aspirant to pass at all.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

RACE MAN GETS A UNIQUE POST IN FIRE DEPT

NOV 15 1941

OAKLAND, Calif., Nov. 13.—Royal E. Towns, hoseman in the Oakland Fire Department for the past 14 years, was appointed operator to Fire Chief Kispert November 1, which marks the first time in the history of California a Negro has been so placed, as far as can be ascertained. Mr. Towns is the only Negro in the United States to receive a similar appointment through competitive examination.

Towns is a member of the Heath club which comprises policemen and firemen of the city of Oakland. He is also editor of the Heath

Herald which is published monthly by the club. He received his appointment through Civil Service, having passed the examination for operator third on the list. He is also on the list of eligibles for lieutenant and for engineer in the department.

Mr. Towns was born, reared and educated in Oakland public schools and was graduated from the Merritt Business college.

He is quite active in fraternal and civic activities, a member of the Masonic Lodge, editor for the Masonic Grand Lodge of California, member of the O. E. S., the Elks, one of the directors of the North Oakland branch YMCA, Scoutmaster, and member of several social organizations, and the father of three children.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

History Made As Pair Commence Service At Latest Positions

JAN 6 1941
**Both Young, Able;
Their Appointment
Epoch Of Progress**

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Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FIRST LIEUTENANTS OF POLICE BEGIN DUTIES

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5-1-41

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

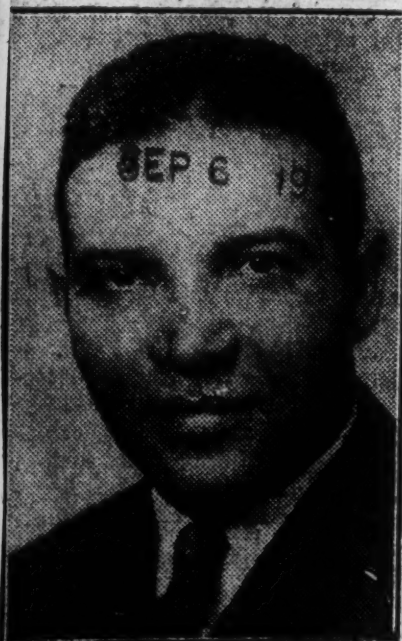
Minister Asks For More Negro Police In New Haven, Conn.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—The Rev. R. A. G. Foster, pastor of the A. M. E. Zion Church, Dixwell avenue and Charles street, announced Friday that he would ask New Haven police authorities to make permanent the appointment of three Negro police supernumeraries, increase their number and reopen the Dixwell avenue police station.

New Haven's first Negro policemen are Raymond Horner, Fred Rogers and Clarence Jacobs. They were named to a probationary status with the New Haven police department last June and their probationary period will end shortly.

"We intend," said Rev. Foster, "to ask the authorities to review their record and to give them permanent appointments as reward for the efficient and intelligent manner in which they have performed their duties."

Wants More Policemen



Rev. R. A. G. FOSTER

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

U. S. Wants No Negro Border Cops

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — Uncle Sam needs men for his border patrol, provided, of course, they are not colored.

Gilbert Frasier, member of Virginia Union university's first edition of the "dream team," took the exam for border patrolman. He passed all of the tests, physical and written, but when he went down for his oral test, the three men who interviewed him decided to funk him. So subsequently some three weeks later, Mr. Frasier was politely notified that he had failed to pass the oral test, which according to Frasier, was no more than a 10 minute interview, covering salient points of his application blank.

The job pays \$2,000 per annum to start with yearly increments of \$200 until a maximum is reached.

Border patrolmen are used on the Mexican and Canadian borders.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Asks Congress For Colored G-Men

APR 19 1941

WASHINGTON, Apr. 17—(AP)—Continuing his fight for the inclusion of Negro members of the F. B. I., Edgar G. Brown appeared before the appropriations committee and the sub-committee on the department of justice and addressed that body in an effort to have Director Hoover include Negroes in his new batch of G-men.

Queried about the proposition which shows only a few Negroes employed in the fingerprint division, which is under the civil service, Brown pointed out that the selection of the G-men and investigators was entirely left to Mr. Hoover.

By permitting Mr. Hoover to make the selection and to eliminate qualified and capable Negroes is unfair, Mr. Brown insisted, and he suggested to the chairman of the committee that Negroes be given an opportunity to serve in this division.

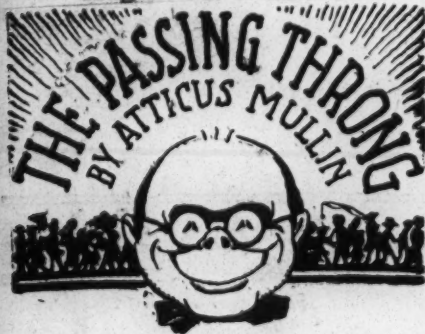
Part of the duty of the 700 men to be appointed will be to guard some 2,000 industrial plants throughout the country to prevent sabotage and instances of similar nature which occurred during the last war, and in the period prior to the entry of the United States into the war.

APR 19 1941

"Every large metropolitan area in the United States has recognized for years a distinct advantage inuring to their respective police department, prosecuting officers, and other law-enforcing agencies, through the employment of Negro Americans as investigators, police officers and detectives," said Mr. Brown.

"It is strikingly strange that over an equal number of years despite the increasing importance of such law enforcement work on behalf of the federal government that not one single Negro has been employed as a G-man. Congress continues to appropriate millions of dollars more for the services of more men in the bureau of investigation of the department of justice, but there is still a complete denial to Negroes of an opportunity for such employment under the present practices," Mr. Brown added.

Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser
August 21, 1941



THE action of the City of Charlotte, N. C., in placing two negroes on the police force to patrol negro sections of the city has been pretty widely approved in the South and has started discussion about negro policemen who have served in Southern cities in earlier days.

This column has already carried an account from the pen of Frank Nunnelee about the negro policeman who served the City of Selma. And we remember as a boy going to Macon, Ga., and seeing a negro policeman there.

Now comes along our good friend Warren Brown and gives us the information that negro policemen once patrolled some of the streets of Montgomery. Not one negro policeman but several were on the force at the same time.

"I wouldn't be positive about the year negro policemen were on the force here," said Mr. Brown. "But I know it was in the 1870's, and I distinctly remember the name of one of them, Spencer Taylor. He was a tall, brown-skinned man and I used to see him around the Square. There were other negro policemen on the force at the same time but I cannot remember their names, of course. The negro policemen were sworn in and made up a part of the Montgomery police force during the administration of Mayor Faber, I believe. As near as I can recollect it was Mayor Faber's administration of the city's affairs when negro policemen were on the force."

Mr. Brown could not remember any particular race feeling at the time the negro policemen were on duty but apparently they were on duty during the reconstruction era when the carpetbaggers had control of the affairs in Alabama and just after the negroes had gone from the status of slaves to freedom. We would hazard a guess that at the time these negroes were on the Montgomery police force, their former white masters were quite a bit peeved and chagrined.

The columnist has heard some suggest that it might be a good idea at this time for the city to employ some negro policemen to patrol the strictly negro sections of the city. We talked

to one experienced officer about it and he said that he had no doubt negro policemen in the negro sections would have a good effect upon the lawbreaking negro citizens. He was fearful, however, that inasmuch as whites run some of the questionable "joints" in the negro section, negro policemen's lives might be endangered, not by the negroes, but by law-breaking dive-operating whites.

51-Gen

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
**GEORGIA'S SOLE
NEGRO DEPUTY
IS GIVEN OATH**

SAVANNAH, 1941
—Ike Thomas, well known for a number of years around the Chatham County courthouse, this week was sworn in again for four more years as a deputy sheriff, the only member of his race in Georgia holding this office.

Mr. Williams, in this capacity for the past four years and the oath of office this time was administered by Sheriff Wilkes S. MacFeeley himself.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WALTER CHIVERS SAYS:

Atlanta Needs Negro Police

By WALTER R. CHIVERS

THE FULTON County, Georgia, grand jury which has just adjourned seemed quite concerned about the abnormally high rate of homicides among its Negro citizens. Its members would have been justified, I think, if they had expressed genuine alarm. I say this



because being human beings and highly civilized, they must recoil at the extraordinarily low value placed upon human lives by these murderers. The grand jury-men have family connections and, therefore, undoubtedly sympathize with the

great loss to families in economic support and morale that results from many of these murders. These gentlemen revealed deep concern about their community-at-large by proposing drastic changes which have stirred strong forces against them. Personally, I disagree with all of their recommendations for reform. It is evident, however, that they were made because of the sincere civic pride coupled with the fact that police reforms and an unprecedented number of "tented" revivals have not improved the overall moral tone of the community.

The grand jurymen must have given consideration to the poor advertising these homicides give to Atlanta and Fulton County. Atlanta, striving mightily to qualify as the only genuine metropolitan center in the South, is particularly vulnerable to this "murderous" publicity.

A SECOND PROPOSAL

For the consideration of municipal and county political administrators and the citizen-voters of Atlanta and Fulton County, I should like to propose what would

be a more effective aid in lowering the Negro homicide rate than the proposals made by the grand jury.

This proposal is being made in harmony with my philosophy of race-relations to the effect that the majority of Negroes are part and parcel of a self-generated secret self-defense society. This society has no formal organization, no membership roster or dues and no meeting place. Except for purposes of self-defense many of its members are bitter enemies.

The society's only form of recognition is a colored face. Its fraternal board is made firm by the need of these distinguishable Negroes for protecting themselves by varied strategies. These forms of strategy are at times highly individualistic and at others they are group activities. For the most part they have grown out of experience and operate unconsciously.

GOVERNMENT PROOF

The long and costly excursion which the federal government has made into the field of relief administration has proved to many "doubting Thomases" among white people, particularly Southern white people, that Negro social workers work more effectively with Negroes than do white social workers. This is true because even the few highly privileged Negroes are still attuned to the Negro self-defense society and rush into its protective bosom when racial conflict arises.

Negro social workers can "afford" to go into the hovels of Negro slum-dwellers and appear to be comfortably-seated. They can engage in easy conversation about their common sufferings—for they are all, regardless of position, discriminated against, exploited and classed as "nigger or Negras" by the majority of white people with whom they deal.

WALTER CHIVERS SAYS:

Atlanta Needs

Negro Police

By WALTER R. CHIVERS

(Continued from last Sunday)

THIS IS THE last of the series of columns on the theme of Negro police for the most urban community in the far South. The procedure will be to support the lines of reasoning set forth in the preceding articles with concrete materials. A basic source of reliable data on Negroes in the United States is the Negro Year Book,



edited by conservative Dr. Monroe N. Work and published under the auspices of Tuskegee Institute.

The most recent issue of the Year Book, now three years old, comments under the title "Negro Policemen" that

"The demand continues to grow, especially, by Negroes themselves that in districts of cities where the Negro predominates, Negro policemen should be used. It is urged that this would be a means, not only of reducing crime, but likewise of preventing racial friction. The experience in connection with the use of Negro policemen seems to bear out these claims."

The list of cities given as employing Negro policemen includes the following Southern cities: Lurel and Wilmington, Delaware; Charleston and Wheeling, West Virginia; Lexington and Louisville, Kentucky; Knoxville and Memphis, Tennessee; Jacksonville, Miami, Sarasota, Fort Myers, Tampa, Florida; Muskogee, Oklahoma City, Okmulgee, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Austin, Beaumont, Galveston, Houston, San Antonio, Texas. To the Florida cities should be added Daytona Beach.

CHARLOTTE ADDS TWO

Since the above information was compiled Baltimore, Maryland, has not only employed Negro policemen but at least one Negro policewoman.

an. Within the past thirty days Charlotte, North Carolina, has decided to experiment with two Negro policemen. In reference to the initial appointment of Negro police in Baltimore the Afro-American newspaper quotes a white political leader as saying that, "uppermost in Commissioner Lawson's mind always is the matter of an efficient police department, that will reduce crime and protect the citizen's interest. Everyone agrees, he feels that the addition of colored officers to the staff will do a great deal to improve crime conditions."

The above two citations are significant because they tend to answer in the affirmative two common questions; the one being, "do Negroes really want Negro police?" The other being "can white politicians afford to endorse the appointment of Negro police officers?"

EFFICIENT OFFICERS

The same Baltimore newspaper can be quoted on the high rate of efficiency possible among Negro policemen. In reference to the Negro police on the staff of the nation's capitol it points out that, "Dramatic incidents and the heroic deeds of the first colored officers on the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington paved the way for the appointment of the forty men who are now part of the nation's finest... Fifty-seven men have received the department's award of honor during the half century, and hundreds of others have played a part in crime prevention and arrests that have won them various types of citations."

The organization meeting of the Negro police officers of Texas and Oklahoma and, on October 18, 1937, in Dallas, Texas, revealed some amazing facts in reference to these officers as factors in indisputably Southern communities. The Norfolk Journal and Guide affords the following information on the meeting: "Special guests of the Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce, the officers were welcomed to the city by the local chief of police and other officials. The following cities were represented: Houston, Galveston, San Antonio, Beaumont, Fort Worth, Austin, Corpus Christi, Texas; and Tulsa and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma."

"Corpus Christi has employed a lone Negro peace officer, only for

the past year and a half, but in Galveston, according to a wire received from the chief of police, they have been used in that city 'with good service,' for over thirty years. In Austin the first Negro officer was employed forty years ago..... in Fort Smith, Arkansas, since July, 1923."

A PROFESSIONAL JOB

It is shown here that the matter of the relationship between white police officials and Negro police officials in the South can be handled amicably and to the credit of the local community. The association between police of the two major races need only be professional. Protecting the lives and property of the citizens of a community is a professional job and is too often hampered now by political and social considerations.

The long years of service rendered by Negro police officers, for instance, in Texas cities, where race prejudice in many instances is more depressing than in most rural sections of Georgia, is proof that Negro police officers may be used without violating their concept of race relations.

Atlanta has several densely populated Negro communities. Those including the majority of her Negro citizens are closely connected. Negro policemen could furnish protection to thousands of Atlanta's Negro citizens without even passing through a section occupied by white people.

NEED FULL AUTHORITY

I want it understood that this last statement is no compromise with authority. The Negro police should have full authority of their positions in the territories assigned to them to patrol. This is essential for the protection of both white and Negro citizens. If conditions were otherwise white criminals committing crimes against white people would flee for refuge into Negro neighborhoods. On the other hand white criminals might use Negro communities as crime bases even more than they do now. The records of Negro police in other Southern cities, located farther South and more solidly steeped in tradition than Atlanta prove that the matter of equal police authority is helpful to the entire department.

There is no record to date of Negro police in the South having caused any inter-racial conflict. The fact that additional Southern cities are using their services is proof that they have been community assets.

51-1941

ILLINOIS

Afro-American

Baltimore, Maryland

MORE POLICEWOMEN

To a Chicago policewoman went the honor of discovering two children hidden for two weeks in Chicago vice dens.

The exploit makes us wonder why policewomen are not more generally employed in city police departments everywhere.

Some large cities have one or two and the smaller cities none at all.

Doubling the number of women cops and extending their work to the detective bureau has not seemed to occur to police heads who still regard women as the weaker sex. Perhaps this is another of the erroneous concepts that a long war period will change.

51-1941

IOWA

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

Negro Police Officers Shifted

Recent changes ordered last week by Chief of Police Tom Pettit affected the rankings of the two Negro detectives, shifting them to the uniformed division as patrolmen, and the promotion of two colored patrolmen to the rank of detectives.

Detective James McGuire and Ben Rich were ordered to report as patrolmen; and officer James Allen and Robert Webb were ordered to report to Chief of Detectives Paul Castelline as detectives.

No comment was made by Chief Pettit after conferences with Safety Commissioner Charles A. Triplett and with Assistant Chief H. A. Alber and other department heads.

Iowa
51

51-1941

KANSAS

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

MORE POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION NEEDED

JAN 17 1941

Kansas City, Kansas has been handicapped for a number of years because of its shortage in the police and fire departments. This shortage, according to Mayor Don C. McConis, is due to the lack of funds needed to bring these departments up to the fullest capacity.

Kansas City, Kansas will have an increase in population in the very near future due to its prominent part in the National Defense Program. A bomber factory is supposed to be built in this city which will bring several

thousands new comers and at the same time cause the protection of life and fire hazards to become more complex. So there will be the problem of bringing our police and fire departments up to normal capacity to meet the needs of the present situation and an additional increase in those departments to give the citizens ample protection when this defense program gets underway.

Representative Towers of the Eighth District in a statement to the Plaindealer last week said: "I propose to introduce legislation to enable the mayor and city commissioners to fill up vacancies in the police and fire departments of this city." We believe that Representative Towers together with the support of other legislators from this city will do everything possible to get such a measure through. Also we learn that another bill is pending and will be introduced which is to enable the city commissioners to increase the facilities of the fire department.

Kansas City, Kansas is a growing metropolitan center and in order to meet the needs of the people it is necessary that we keep our protection of life and death up to the standard. We hope that there will be no delay in getting the proper action in the present session of the legislation so that the mayor and city commissioners can act without any delay in giving the people of this city the desired protection.

JAN 17 1941

51-1941

MASSACHUSETTS

Negro Labor News

Houston, Texas

**NEGRO HOSEMAN NAMED
LIEUTENANT OF BOSTON
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

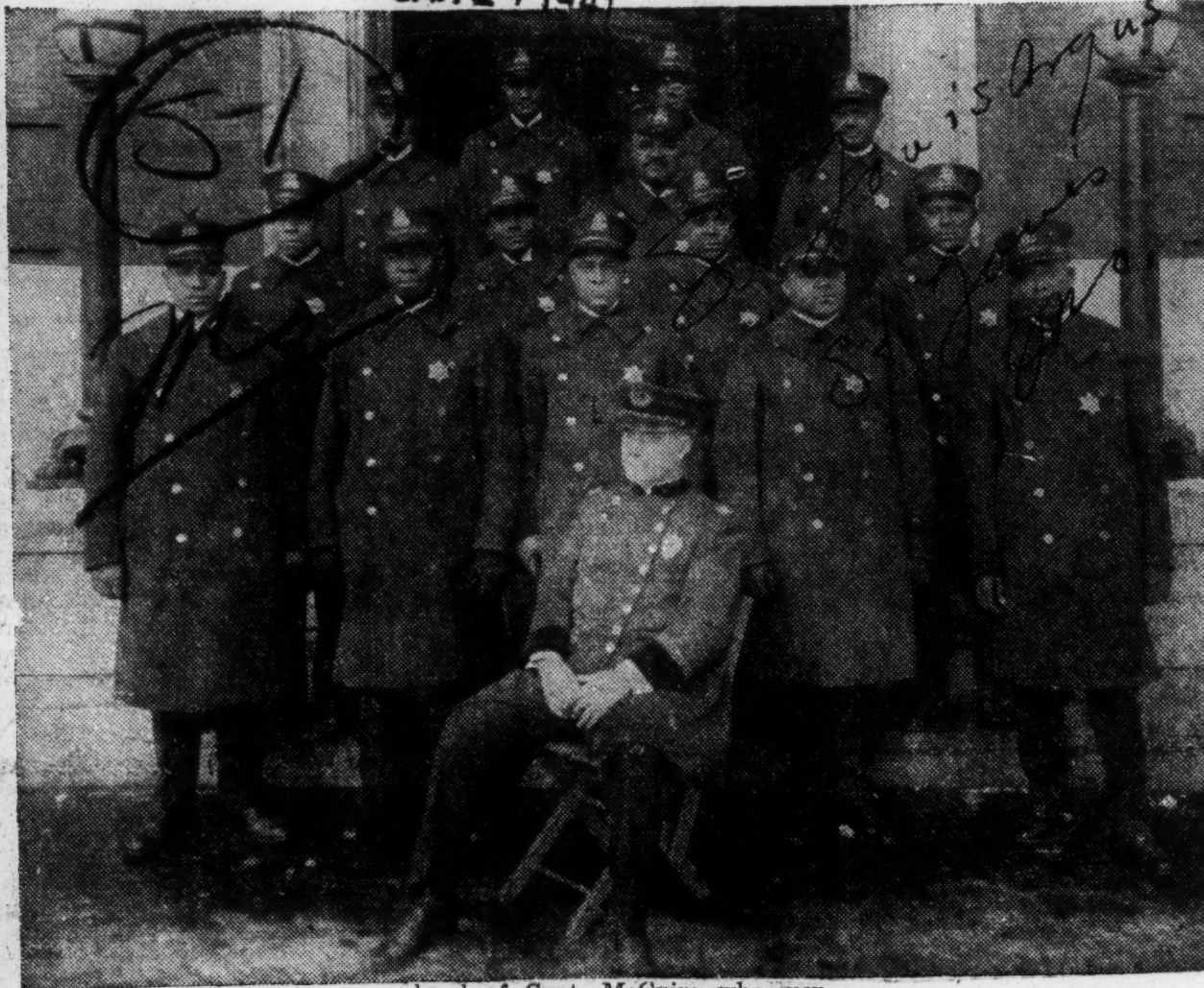
BOSTON, Mass.—(By Jim Hewlett for ANP)—The Boston fire department, rated one of the nation's most efficient, recently elevated Percy L. Richardson, hoseman to the rank of lieutenant. He is the second Negro in the history of the department to attain the rank of an officer and at present one of the two on the force.

A World War veteran, he served with distinction with the famous Co. L., 372nd Red Hand division. The announcement was made by Mayor Tobin and Fire Commissioner Reiley.

JUL 5 1941

Champion of Negro Uniformed Officer Passes

AUG 24 1941



The death of Captain Arthur L. McGuire, in charge of No. 1 Station at Carondelet Park, Saturday, January 18, brings to light this picture, taken on February 10, 1922, in front of the old Eighth District headquarters, Laclede and Leffingwell, with the 14 uniformed race officers then under his command. It was Captain McGuire who commanded the first group of colored uniformed officers in St. Louis and ten of the men in this picture were placed in uniforms at the request of Captain McGuire, who, following his appointment to the eighth district on August first 1921, asked that Negroes be placed under him to serve in uniforms.

Prior to that time, while there had been Negro policemen in the St. Louis Metropolitan department, all had been serving as plainclothesmen. While such an act required much courage, it is indicative of the real man-

hood of Capt. McGuire who won much praise and Andrew Carnegie medal and prize award when, as a patrolman in 1913, he saved the lives of five Negroes, at the risk of his own life, when their home was threatened as the River des Peres, then open and wild at the time, went on a rampage.

In this picture with Capt. McGuire (seated in front) are Patrolmen Elisha Pettus (now deceased); Clarence Lee (now detective sergeant); Lester Kaiser (now deceased); James Taylor (special officer ninth district) and Clarence B. Whitlor (last heard of in California).

Second row: Jerry Dickson (now deceased); Isaac Bates (now deceased); Addison Logan (now deceased) and Mose Carter (resigned).

Third row: Clarence Stanford,

Kansas City, Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Assign Negro Officers To District Squad Cars

AUG 29 1941

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — (Special)

Negro officers were assigned to patrol the Negro community in district cars beginning August 21, it was announced from Captain William Tobenor's office at No. 3 police station.

Six officers in uniform will ride in three district cars, two men to a car. They will work in three eight-hour shifts from 8 a. m., to 4 p. m., 4 p. m., to midnight and midnight to 8 a. m.

The officers now riding in cars are Sgt. Emmett Walls, John Wilson, Forest Stirman and William Kenner. Sgt. Leon Jordan and Clifford Warren, on vacation, will man the other cars when they return to duty. **AUG 29 1941**

With the assignment of Negro officers to district cars, the police department has answered a complaint that has been made by Negro citizens that Negro officers should patrol the Negro district.

But, community leaders pointed out this week, one district car is not enough to cover the entire community and expressed the view that more Negro officers should be put on the force so that more

cars could be put in service in the Negro district.

With six of the 12 Negro officers assigned to district cars, the Negro community is left without representatives in the detective department. The four officers who have been working as plainclothesmen were assigned to work in uniform in the district cars, leaving no Negro plainclothesmen on the force.

Additional policemen are needed to serve as plainclothesmen and to man additional district cars.

The 12 Negro officers now on the force, their classification and their stations are: **AUG 29 1941**

Leon Jordan and Emmett Walls, acting sergeants, district cars; John Wilson, Clifford Warren and Forest Stirman, class A patrolmen, district cars; Sam Royston, Melvin Cooper and Homer Weaver, class B patrolmen, General hospital No. 2; Frank McDaniels, class B, Twelfth street beat, temporarily assigned to district car; William Kenner, class B, district car. Joseph Wright, police gymnasium, and Andrew Smith, driver for Chief Reed.

Kansas City, Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Chief May Appoint More Negro Policemen Soon

By Staff Writer

A report is current in Kansas City this week that the number of Negroes on the police force is about to be increased. That is good news to those who have been waging a campaign for several months to get additional Negro police officers.

Even better news is the report that once again Negroes are to be attached to the detective department. These reports could not be verified at press time, but the information came to The Call from usually reliable sources.

If and when additional Negro officers are appointed to the police force, Negro citizens will see in the move another step toward improved relations between the police department and the Negro citizenry. Many improvements in this relationship have been noted in recent weeks. Since Chief Harold Anderson took office following the resignation of Chief L. B. Reed, (who quit during an investigation of complaints of brutality made by Negro citizens) not one instance of police brutality has been brought to public attention. Officers are more courteous. The police department in general is more cooperative. This newspaper no longer has difficulty getting police reports.

Change Attributed to Administrative Policy

This change is attributed to the attitude and administrative policy of Chief Anderson who, when he took office on October 1 said that his department would make no discrimination against any segment of the population, that there would be one law and that it would be applied justly and fairly to all.

Perhaps the change is the indirect result of the complaint which Negro citizens took to Governor Forrest C. Donnell in August. Although the governor has made no public statement since he received charges against the police department made by Negroes and countercharges made with him by the board of police commissioners, the effect of the visit with the governor is being felt in a substantial way.

Edgar Shook, president of the

board of police commissioners since Kansas City's police department went under state control two years ago, resigned this week to devote his time to his private law practice. Attorney Shook was appointed by Governor Donnell's predecessor, Lloyd C. Stark.

During the conference with Governor Donnell, the Negro citizens' committee asked the governor for a new set of police commissioners with the exception of Harry M. Gambrel, a Donnell appointee, who was named to the board only a few weeks before the campaign against brutality began and who was not in office at the time when the alleged acts were committed.

Expect To Name Gambrel President

Although no announcement to that effect has been made, it is expected that Mr. Gambrel will be named as the new president of the board, succeeding Shook.

Negroes were interested this week also in the resignation of William F. Kearney, superintendent of the bureau of records, who resigned to take a job in private industry. It was Kearney who made the unfounded statement that there are 6,000 Negro Communists in Jackson county. This statement was subsequently repudiated by the board of police commissioners. It would be hard to find six real Negro Communists in Kansas City and Jackson county.

In every respect, the Negroes of Kansas City are seeing the dawn of a new day in their relationship with the police officers of this community, thanks to Governor Donnell, thanks to Chief Anderson and thanks to the Negroes themselves who rose up in protest against the abominable conditions which existed here some months ago.

The surest way to continue a friendly relationship, the police with Negroes, is to continue to add Negroes to the police force until Negroes have their full quota of officers—a quota based upon population percentage. We have every confidence that this will be done and that Kansas City will set the pace for other cities in police relations as it has done in participation in defense industry.

Kansas City, Call
Kansas City, Mo.

N.A.A.C.P. Branch Asks Governor for Unbiased Police Board Member

Committee Confers With Judge Ben Terte on Inclusion of Negroes on Jackson County Grand Jury Panels

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (Special)—The N.A.A.C.P. branch this week urged Governor Donnell to fill the vacancy on the Kansas City board of police commissioners a man who is an outstanding citizen, who is unbiased and who has public confidence. The vacancy to be filled by Governor Donnell was created by the resignation of Edgar Shook, chairman since the department went under state control in 1939. The N.A.A.C.P. also urged that a qualified Negro be considered for the appointment.

The branch completed a study of during the week in a number of other activities in the interest of the civil and economic rights of Negroes.

A telegram of protest was sent to the factory management of Remington Arms company against discrimination in employment at Lake City.

The branch completed a study of grand jury appointments for the past 10 years in this county and found that at no time has a Negro been appointed by a circuit judge.

T. B. Watkins, James H. Herbert, and Carl R. Johnson, representing the N.A.A.C.P., held a conference last Saturday with Judge Ben Terte, presiding over criminal division of circuit court, urging him to resubmit to a grand jury to be shortly appointed by him the question of police brutality among Negroes.

At the same time the committee urged Judge Terte to name a Negro for service on the grand jury. The committee discovered as a re-

sult of Judge Terte's personal investigation, following a complaint from the branch that of the 600 names in the grand jury wheel, only four were Negroes, three of whom were recommended two years ago by the president of the branch.

Roger Baldwin, the great liberalist of New York, called by phone enroute to California from New York to obtain information on the general race situation in Kansas City and to congratulate the branch on its police fight.

Representation was made this week to the Kansas City Real Estate board and the Chamber of Commerce urging that an apparently agreed policy among white leading agencies to refuse refinancing extension on placing Negro loans be discontinued as being unfair and destructive of the ideal of home ownership among Negroes.

51-1941

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Uniformed Cop



Mrs. Margaret Creswell Hiawatha, who enjoys the unique distinction of being the only policewoman in the Police Department of New Jersey and is probably the best known member of the Atlantic City Force. Mrs. Hiawatha is widely known for her social and civic activities and welfare work among the needy. She was educated at St. Francis Academy, Baltimore. Mrs. Hiawatha has an uncle who is a priest.

NEW JERSEY

51-1941

New York ~~Age~~
New York, N. Y.

Scores 99.4 Per Cent To Head 5,400 In Fire Dept. Physical Tests

Completing an agility test two-tenths of a second behind the scheduled time for perfection, robbed Luther B. Hooey, 28, of 112 West 138th street, one of 5,400 candidates for appointment to the Fire Department of completing his examination with the perfect record of 100 per cent.

His mark of 99.4 per cent was the highest score made in the test, which Civil Service Commission authorities described as the toughest ever given. Paul J. Kern, president of the Civil Service Commission, said the test was "the toughest ever devised for a government job, civil, or military."

Mr. Hooey, an employe of the Department of Sanitation, attends evening classes at New York University where he expects to receive a bachelor of arts degree. He made perfect scores in all but the agility test. In this test each candidate received a twenty-four foot start and was required to take a ten-foot broad jump, clear a three-and-a-half foot hurdle, dodge through barriers climb a ladder ten feet high and swing across a horizontal ladder for fifteen feet, jump or drop from an eight-foot wall, scale another eight-foot wall, vault a box four and a half feet high and dash to the finish line.

Completing the course in more than thirty-one seconds meant failure. Less than sixteen seconds mean perfection. Hooey's time was sixteen and one-tenth seconds. Thus two-tenths of a second robbed him of a perfect score for the entire examination.

Hooey, who is five feet nine inches, weighs 175 lbs., is married and is active in social and religious circles being a member of the board of religious education at St. Mark's Methodist Church.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
August 31, 1941

Tar Heel Negro Assumes Position Lou Gehrig Held

By GERTRUDE CARRAWAY.

A North Carolina Negro is making history in New York City. Lieut. Samuel J. Battle, 58, native New Bernian who last June 26 celebrated his 50th year on the New York police force, as New York's first Negro policeman, has just been appointed by Mayor LaGuardia to the Municipal Parole Commission job left vacant by the recent death of Lou Gehrig, one of America's outstanding baseball heroes.

As New York's Parole Commissioner, Battle will continue in office until the Gehrig term expires January 4, 1950. His salary is increased to \$6,000 a year from his previous \$4,000 salary as a police officer. In his new role he will continue Gehrig's study of the causes of the increase of juvenile delinquency in the Harlem areas with which he is already so familiar.

The career of the North Carolinian in the metropolis is a rare instance of Negro success in public office. He is given credit for helping erase the color line in the New York Police Department. For his part, he declares he has experienced no real handicap or disadvantage because of his race.

Son Of Ex-Slaves.

Born in 1833 at New Bern, he is a son of the late Thomas and Annie Battle, who were slaves before the War Between the States. Although the family was quite poor, he managed to attend the Negro public schools in New Bern.

After attending the Boardman Manual Training School at New Haven, Conn., Sam followed the example of many others of his race by getting a job as a Red Cap at the Grand Central Terminal in New York City.

For six years he toiled earnestly with bags and baggage, all the while studying with an idea of trying to land a post on the New York Police Force, which made no bones about announcing that no Negro was wanted among the personnel.

Persistently Sam kept his determination to be a policeman. In 1911 he obtained an appointment as a patrolman, the first Negro on the force. At the West 68th Street Station, where he was assigned for duty, the white officers endeavored to make him quit by giving him "the silent treatment" for a whole year.

But Battle lived up to his name and fought against personal discrimination as well as against civic crime. In 1926 he was made a sergeant, the first member of his race to achieve this position in the municipal police department.

Meanwhile sponsoring social measures independently in Harlem, he became connected with many organizations interested in promoting the welfare of Negroes. In 1936 he was appointed as a police lieutenant.

Breaking Up A Riot.

About 22 years ago he attained a degree of fame by holding off a mob of Harlem Negro rioters threatening to lynch a white policeman who had killed a Negro in a race riot. "I just held them off," he explained his action modestly afterwards. "I threatened to shoot the first man who laid his hand on him."

Towering six feet three inches in height and weighing 250 pounds, Battle is a powerful man. He returned to his native section about 10 years ago to arrest a New York Negro murderer who had taken

refuge in Pamlico County in an effort to escape detection.

Now more at home in the North than in the South, having resided here since he was 16 years of age, he owns his own five-story brick house at 255 West 138th Street, New York. He and his wife have three children and two grandchildren.

His hobby, he says, is "doing things for people less fortunate than I've been." Annually for the past 18 years he has conducted a one-man campaign to raise funds for entertaining 1,000 underprivileged children, both white and Negro, at a big Thanksgiving turkey dinner and theatre party in Harlem.

NEW YORK

New York ~~Age~~

New York, N. Y.

Newly Formed Society Of Negro Firemen Wins Recognition From Fire Commissioner

The recent New York Daily News \$100 Award winner, 32-year-old Albert Boston, who was seriously injured when trying to apprehend a bandit during a gun battle in East Harlem on August 30th, was missed by his brother firemen, when they lined up in the office of Fire Commissioner Patrick Walsh, Thursday, to receive recognition for their newly formed club among colored firemen, The Vulcan Society of the New York Fire Department.

This brief ceremony, which lasted less than three quarters of an hour in the private office of the Department's new commissioner, was witnessed by the club personnel and several newspapermen. In the richly furnished office of Commissioner Walsh which contained a case filled with trophies won by the Department for bowling, basketball, baseball and other athletic garments, Battalion Chief Wesley Williams, who has been in the service 22 years, formally introduced his colleagues to the Commissioner.

Following the reading of the club's constitution which lists seven purposes of the organization, the Commissioner spoke briefly complimenting the group for initiating such a club which has set up high ideals for its members. He also urged his subordinates to impress upon the residents of their respective communities the safety rule that fire prevention is better than fire extinguishing.

In his speech he also praised the heroic deed of Fireman Boston and said that when he visited the patient on several occasions he found him in the best of spirits.

This organization with its sixty-eight members means much in the life of the Negro firemen, for it marks the first time in the history of the Department that a club has been formed for and by Negroes.

In short the objectives are to fa-

miliarize citizens with the necessity of eliminating fire hazards; cooperating through national, local and church groups; promoting gymnastics, spirit of brotherhood among its members; providing death annuities for a deceased member of the society; and furthering the cause of civil defense in Negro communities.

Officers for 1941 are William Chisholm, H & L. 20, pres.; Lindsay White, H. & L. 15, vice-president; Albert Boston, financial secretary; William Halsey, Eng. Co. 69, treasurer; Leonard Gruby, Engine Co. 58, recording secretary; and Vonner Jordan, Eng. Co. 55; William T. Owens, Engine Co. 95; and John H. McKenzie Jr., Eng. Co. 50, members of the Board.

NEWEST N.Y. POLICEWOMAN

SEP 13 1941



Vivian C. Hughes, former Welfare Supervisor and graduate from the School of Recruits in New York City, was appointed to the New York Police department Thursday by Mayor LaGuardia.—foto-rowe.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

N.Y.C. FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS RECOGNIZE NEGRO GROUP



The Vulcan Society of the New York Fire Department, composed of sixty Negro firemen, only 10 short of the total number of Negroes on the force, gained recognition and equal status with Jewish, Catholic and Italian departmental societies in ceremony last week at department headquarters. Left to right, Fire Commissioner Patrick Walsh; Battalion Chief Wesley Williams, highest ranking Negro on the force (he is outlining the purposes of the society); William Chisholm, president; Vonner Jordan, Leonard Gruby, Lindsay White, vice-president; William T. Owens, William J. Halsey and John McKenzie.—M. Smith Photo.

Amsterdam News New York, N. Y.

That Thirtieth Precinct

For several successive weeks last year we published editorials urging some kind of New Deal at the 30th police precinct, located on Amsterdam Avenue near 150th Street, and responsible for policing practically all the so-called Sugar Hill district. The immediate cause of our campaign was the mysterious death of two women in one week, both having been killed by falling from windows.

We urged a thorough investigation of the death because in both cases rumors spread thick and fast that the women had been murdered. Moreover, upon discovering that no Negro patrolmen were attached to the command we asked Captain Harding, the Commanding officers if this were a mere oversight, or if the report were true that it was the policy at the 30th precinct not to use Negro cops. It had been brought to our attention that some of the white officers displayed little or no interest in cases where Negroes were involved.

About the only "rise" we got from the precinct was a promise that the "suicides" would be investigated and that consideration would be given the suggestion that Negroes should be assigned to the command. Result: The "suicides" were quickly written off as closed, and Negro patrolmen are still conspicuous by their absence from the confines of the 30th precinct.

We stand for efficiency in all governmental departments, whether city, state or federal . . . just the same as we stand for efficiency in private institutions. We don't believe the 30th precinct would be sacrificing any efficiency by placing Negro officers on the staff. Indeed, we believe the efficiency would be enhanced.

If Negro policemen were stationed in communities predominately inhabited by white people we probably would be inclined to believe the department was following a practice of using Negroes in white districts and whites in Negro districts with the view of putting the men where their chief interest would be in doing police work and not in hobnobbing with friends. In other words, a policy of assigning a man to work as far away from his home as possible, as long as it imposed no undue hardship on him in getting to and from his post. This, obviously, was not the case because nearly all the Negro cops are divided between the 32nd precinct at 135th Street and the 28th precinct at 123rd Street—both in the densest parts of lower and mid Harlem.

In recent months conditions have grown steadily worse in the 30th precinct. Murder, Suicides, number playing, mugging, prostitution . . . all these things in a section which only a few years ago was considered one of the finest residential areas for Negroes in the world. The fair name of Sugar Hill can and must be restored. But if this

is to be done we must have a New Deal in the 30th precinct. Commissioner Valentine ought to know about this. Residents in the neighborhood should bestir themselves.

FEB 15 1941

Hero Officers Honored

MAY 5 - 1941

MAY 5 - 1941



J. A. Holt, Jr.



Joseph Lynch



F. A. Socha



Maurice Barry



John C. Kenny



Thomas Cox



Charles O'Brien



P. A. Rodriguez



Louis Tobkes



C. J. Walsh



Thomas O'Brien



Harry Carver



Robert Murray



Rocco Scarfione



James Ward



J. W. Schecker



S. D. Garelik



Wm. A. Leckey

3 Police Heroes Honored in Death; Awards for 32

MAY 5 - 1941
Medals Go to Kin

Of World's Fair

Bomb Victims Now-Telegram-N.Y.

The Department Medal of Honor, highest award bestowed on any New York City policeman, today was awarded posthumously to Detectives Joseph J. Lynch and Ferdinand A. Socha—killed last



July 4 while guarding a time bomb at the World's Fair—and Patrolman John A. Holt, Jr., Negro officer, killed by a burglar more than a year ago in a wild pursuit in Manhattan.

The awards were made by Police Commissioner Valentine to the dead officers' next of kin. Commissioner Valentine announced also that 32 awards to present members of the force would be made at noon May 27 in City Hall Plaza by Mayor La Guardia.

MAY 5 - 1941
Chosen by Committee.

One other Department Medal of Honor was awarded—to Patrolman Nick Teresky of the Seventh Precinct, who shot and killed a holdup man in Pitt St., Manhattan, last December after the thug held up a butcher shop. Teresky, who was shot by the gunman, still is on sick report.

The 32 members of the force who will receive medals May 27 were chosen by the Police Commissioner and members of the departmental honor committee, comprising the first and second deputy police commissioners, the chief inspector and the chief clerk.

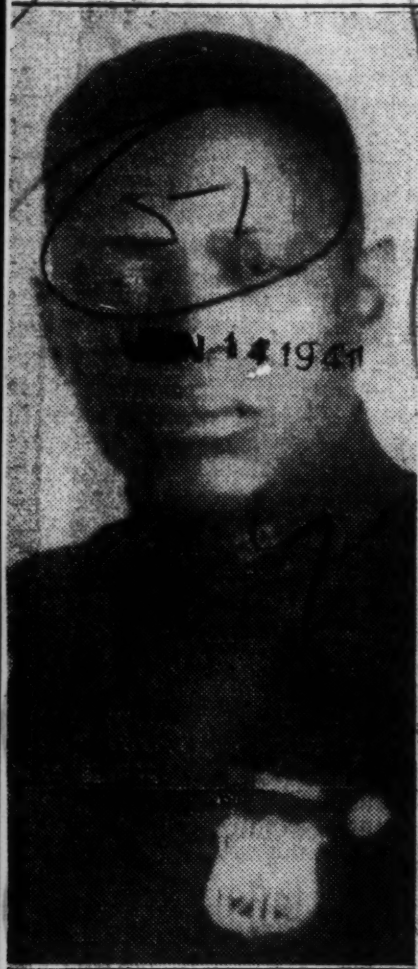
The awards are recognized by the Civil Service Commission in promotion examinations, and carry percentage weights ranging up to 2 per cent.

Bomb Squad Tragedy.

Detectives Lynch and Socha, attached to the Bomb Squad, were summoned from their homes July 4 after a handbag suspected of containing a bomb was discovered in a World's Fair building. They were killed by an explosion while inspecting the package at another location to which it had been removed.

Patrolman Holt, off duty, was in his home at 226 Bradhurst Ave., when he learned of a burglary taking place in another apartment on Feb. 12, 1940. He grappled with the burglar, who broke way, then chased him to the roof of the building at 234 Bradhurst Ave. The burglar was captured by other patrolmen after he had mortally wounded Holt.

New York ~~are~~
New York, N. Y.
New Police Sergeant



Sergeant MARIMON MOORE

**6th Police Sergeant
Promoted; 2 Women
2 Men Added To Dept.**

Harlem got another police sergeant, two probationary patrolmen and two policewomen, all Negroes Monday when Police Commissioner Valentine on Monday at exercises at City Hall promoted 206 members of his department and inducted 200 new probationary patrolmen and six probationary policewomen.

The new sergeant, ~~who~~ becomes the city's sixth, is Marimon Paul Moore, of 160 West 142nd street, who has been assigned to the 28th Precinct. The new patrolmen are William H. Johnson jr., of 839 East

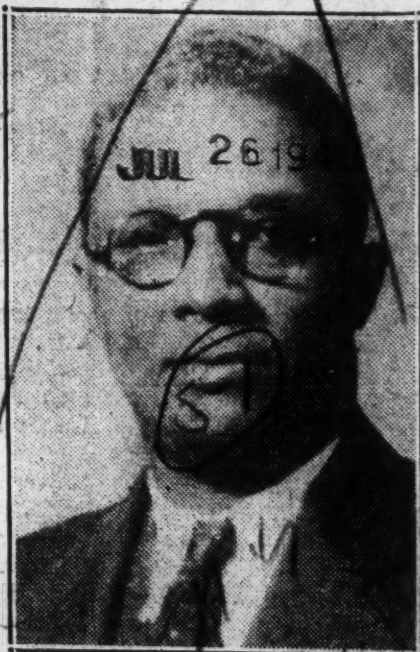
223rd street, the Bronx, and Henry May jr., of 46 West 136th street. The new policewomen are Velenia G. Ellis, of 365 Edgecombe avenue, and Vivian C. Hughes, of 152 West 131st street.

Sergeant Moore, a member of the Police Department for 16 years, is married and has a son and two daughters, one of whom recently married. He is a medal man and a member of the Police Department Legion of Honor.

Two of the six sergeants, Emanuel Kline and Louis Chisholm, have for several years been acting lieutenants. The others are John Brown and George Redding, both stationed at the 28th Precinct, and Carl Jordan, of the 32nd Precinct.

The highest ranking man in the department is Lieutenant Samuel J. Battle. The highest ranks in the Department are held by the Rev. John H. Johnson, chaplain, and Dr. Louis T. Wright, police surgeon (on sick leave), both of whom hold the rank of inspectors.

New York ~~are~~
New York, N. Y.
Appointed Deputy Sheriff



HAROLD C. BURTON

**Harold Burton Takes
Oath Of Office As
New Deputy Sheriff**

On Tuesday, July 15th, Harold

C. Burton, Republican leader of the 21st Assembly District, East, was sworn in as a Deputy Sheriff of New York County by Hon. Daniel R. ~~the~~ He took office ~~officially~~ on Wednesday, July 16.

The appointment of Mr. Burton was made on the recommendation of Hon. Thomas Curran, Republican County Chairman of New York County, in recognition of his efficient and fine services as district leader. It was understood that only a district leader could be appointed or receive the recommendation for this appointment.

Mr. Burton, during his short period as leader, has secured several positions for his workers and constituents, among them being: Sterling Gordon and Thomas McFadden as corporation inspectors in the office of the President of the Borough of Manhattan, J. McKinely Thompson as special investigator in the Comptroller's office and temporary jobs too numerous to mention.

Under Mr. Burton's leadership, through his district organization, the Square Deal Republican Club, 2350 Seventh avenue, the Republican party in his district has taken new life. The Republican vote in the ~~district~~ ~~has~~ increased and the welfare and interests of the community as a whole greatly improved.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
**N. Y. Policeman
Gets Gehrig's
Parole Post**

**Lieut. Battle
Named by Mayor
To \$6,000 Job**

NEW YORK (ANP)—Mayor F. H. LaGuardia, in another of his famous firsts, named police Lieut. Samuel J. Battle as a member of the parole commission to fill the unexpired term of the late Lou Gehrig, famous baseball idol of the New York Yankees. The announcement was made last Wednesday from the office of the summer city

hall. The job pays \$6,000 a year and runs Jan 4, 1950.

Pointing to the mounting number of young Negro boys running afoul the law, the mayor felt that the problem required the knowledge and the understanding of a person such as Lieut. Battle who, as the first Negro ever appointed to the police force in this city, brings with him the experience of at least 25 years of combat with the situation.

The new commissioner was appointed to the force on June 28, 1911. In 1936, he became eligible for voluntary retirement but preferred to remain in the service. As soon as his retirement has been arranged now, however, he will be sworn in to this new duty.

BORN IN NEW BERN, N. C.

Through tenacious perservance Lieut. Battle fought his way up the ladder as a boy in New Bern, N. C., where he was born in 1883, as a red cap at the Grand Central terminal and finally as a patrolman, one of New York's finest. He remained at Grand Central for about six years before determining on changing his position. He passed the examination in 1910 but was rejected by police department surgeons only to be pronounced fit by doctors for the civil service commission. Finally Police Commissioner Rhinelander Waldo appointed him to the force. His rise wasn't rapid but it was sure because he had set a goal for himself. This strong will resulted in his appointment to the rank of sergeant on May 21, 1926, by Commissioner Geo. McLaughlin and to the rank of lieutenant by Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine on Jan 7, 1935. In each instance he was first of the race to rise. His record has been spotless.

While instances when Lieut. Battle has shown outstanding courage and marked judgement are numerous, his fellow officers like to think of the race riot that broke out in Harlem in 1919 in which a white policeman had shot and killed a Negro. It was Battle who succeeded in holding in check the mob that sought to take vengeance upon the white cop.

Commissioner Valentine had the following to say:

DELIGHTED IN SELECTION

"I am delighted in the selection of Lieut. Samuel Battle, as a member of the parole board by his honor, the mayor.

His selection reflects credit not only upon Lieut. Battle but upon this department of which he has been an outstanding member and a credit for more than 30 years:

"Naturally I am pleased that a member of this department should be selected by the mayor for this important assignment."

Interviewed at his home, the

new commissioner explained how delighted he was over his appointment. "The experiences and the associations that I have had during my 30 years in the department," he declared, "were real and I will loathe to leave them behind. We are very grateful to the mayor for his far-sightedness in appointing a Negro. I shall try to conduct myself so that this job may be perpetuated for a colored man, and that greater rewards will not be denied us because of anything which I may do during my term."

The commissioner is active in many community organizations including the NAACP, the YMCA, and the New York Urban League as well as the Oddfellows, Free and Accepted Masons, Mystic Shriners, Knight Templars, the Elks, and all line organizations of the police department. He attends Mother AME Zion church.

Annually on Thanksgiving day, for the past 19 years, he has given a free show and dinner entertainment for the poor children of Harlem, both colored and white. Generally 1,000 children have been accommodated.

Commissioner Battle lives at 255 West 138 Street with his wife. He has three children and two grandchildren, and is plenty proud of them.

51-1941

NEW YORK

New York ~~are~~
New York, N. Y.

Negro Candidate Who Came Out First In Fire Dept. Physical Exam



LUTHER M. B. HOOEY, 28, of 112 West 138th street, whose mark of 99.4 in the physical test for appointment to the Fire Department, is showing here receiving the congratulations of Civil Service officials on his remarkable feat. He is the first Negro ever to come out at the top of a competitive physical test for either the Police or Fire Departments.

Shown here left to right are: Civil Service Commissioner Sayre, Mr. Hooey; Civil Service Commission President Paul Kern and Paul Brennan, physical examiner.

Jim-Crow Stations Ruled Out By N. Y. Fire Commissioner

SEP 20 1941

Walsh Says His Department Is Example to the World in Racial Amity and Cooperation—Lauds Newly-Formed Negro Society.

NEW YORK, Sept. 18.—The Vulcan Society of the New York Fire Department, composed of sixty Negro firemen, a number only ten short of the total number of Negro firemen on the force, was given the benediction of Fire Commissioner Patrick Walsh and equal status with other Jewish, Catholic and Italian fire department societies at a little ceremony last week at Fire Department headquarters in the Municipal building.

Battalion Chief Wesley Williams, highest ranking Negro member of the department, outlined the objectives of the newly organized group for the benefit of the commissioner while seven other members of the society, selected to represent the Vulcans, stood at attention. The commissioner, accepting the society's scroll promised to continue the department's policy of allocating Negro firemen to stations all over the city.

PRAISES NEGRO FIREMEN

"Fire makes no distinction as to race, creed or color," he told his hearers. "Hence, I see no reason why the fire department should be any different. In New York, I am happy to say, there is no such thing as a jim crow fire department. We are all firemen, all here for the same purpose."

"It has been my experience that Negro firemen, given the same opportunities, are just as capable and efficient as firemen of any other race. I feel that the members of the New York Fire Department, springing from all races and all creeds, are setting an example to the world in racial amity and cooperation. I say here and now that I intend to continue the policy of this department in distributing Negro firemen all over the city, where they can work side by side with their white brethren."

LAUDS HERO

In the Vulcan delegation, besides Chief Williams, were: William Chisholm, president; Lindsay White, vice-president; William J. Halsey, treasurer; Leonard Gruby, recording secretary; and Varner Jordan, William T. Owens and John McKenzie. Albert Boston, financial secretary, was unable to appear. While helping a patrolman to arrest a white holdup man three weeks ago, he was shot through the lungs and is now recovering from his wounds. However, his heroism was lauded by Commissioner Walsh.

Objectives of the Vulcan Society, as outlined by Chief Williams, are as follows: To minimize loss of life and property through educational programs in fire prevention, to develop a spirit of

1-1941

NORTH CAROLINA

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
January 16, 1941

FAVOR NEGRO POLICE HERE

Interracial Group Points Out
That Plan Adopted By
Other Southern Cities.

Members of the interracial committee of the Charlotte Young Women's Christian association went on record in favor of employment of Negro policemen at a meeting at the Y. W. C. A. yesterday afternoon.

The committee discussed the Negro crime problem in the city and a study which shows that the employment of Negro policemen has worked satisfactorily in a number of southern cities. It was decided that a letter stating the position of the group on the matter will be sent to the city council. Members explained that in a place where there is such a serious Negro crime problem, it would be wise to try a plan which has been successful in other places.

Marvin Ray, parks and recreation director, discussed the recreational facilities the city offers for its citizens. It was brought out in a round table discussion of the question that the average spent in Charlotte is 18 cents per person in comparison with much larger sums available in other cities. For instance, High Point spends \$1.10 per person to provide parks and playgrounds. Mrs. Zeb Watkins was named as chairman of a committee which will work with Mr. Ray on plans for the committee to visit all of the city's parks and playgrounds in the near future.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
January 16, 1941

**WILL SCUSS
NE, RO POLICE**
Committee Of City Council and
Representatives Of Negroes
Will Meet Friday.

A special committee appointed by the city council will meet Friday

day afternoon at 2:30 o'clock with Negro representatives for a discussion of the proposal of employing Negro policemen to patrol certain sections in Charlotte in an effort to cut down the widespread Negro crime.

On the committee representing the city are City Manager James W. Armstrong, Police Chief Harry Joyner, Detective Chief Frank N. Littlejohn, and Police Captains Alex West, C. T. Brown and J. S. Hord.

Representing the Negroes will be Dr. J. S. Nathaniel Tross, Mrs. H. L. McCrorey and Thad Tate.

Holds Mine Workers
SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 15.—(AP) William Keck, 50, today was declared re-elected state president of the Progressive Mine Workers of America.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
January 19, 1941

Why No Negro Policemen?
To The Observer:

Having been born in the very heart of the South, to be specific, in Shelby county, Memphis, Tenn., I have great faith in the southern white man's sense of justice, fair play and understanding of us as a group. That spirit of fair play on the part of the white man of the South was evidenced by the editorial comment given in The Charlotte Observer in reference to the Spingard Medal won by Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, builder of the school for her people at Sedalia, N. C. Over against these evidences of justice and fair play on the part of the white people of the South, there appeared the news of the turning down of the petition presented by the Crusaders, among which are the representatives of the citizenry of Charlotte. Said petition asked for Negro policemen. The petition was turned down without any reason having been given.

That necessitates the asking of the question, Why? Why not Negro policemen? Haven't we a right to apply for positions in the Civil Service of the city and state? Are we not tax payers, everyone of us? Those who rent and those who own property? Are we not contributors to the economic life of the city? Are we not a part of the social structure of the City? Are we not living still under a system of representative government? We ask why not colored policemen?

I think out of a sense of justice and fair play thousands of fair-minded white people will join the Crusaders in their fight for colored policemen. They will join us in asking, Why? Was the turning down of that petition upon the

grounds of incompetency, no, no examination was held. Was it turned down because of the reason given, to wit, that appointment of colored policemen would reduce crime? That of course is problematic, and carries with it the idea that the job is too big for white policemen. Maybe, we had better get another reason for the appointment of Negro policemen, and that is because we are tax payers and because we are citizens of Charlotte and because we helped to make the South what it is! That is a mighty good reason for asking appointments of Negro policemen. That no one can deny.

But for whatever reason these representative Negroes of Charlotte asked for colored policemen, we endorse the reasonableness of the request and know that just turning the petition down will not be enough, we want to know why? We shall ask that question in every pulpit, in every gathering until a mighty sentiment shall be crystallized that will result in the appointment of Negro policemen, because it is just and right and because we believe in the white man's sense of justice and fair play.

Charlotte.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
January 18, 1941

PLAN REQUEST TO COUNCILMEN ON WEDNESDAY

City Manager and Police Chief
Seem Cool to Proposal.

JOYNER AVOIDS COMMENT

Officials Apparently Think
Other Means Ample to Cope
With Murders.

The Community Crusaders, a Negro organization dedicated to the task of reducing crime among mem-

bers of its race, will appear before the city council again next Wednesday to renew the request for Negro policemen in certain sections of the community.

A committee from the Crusaders met yesterday with City Manager James W. Armstrong, Chief Harry M. Joyner, and other officials of the police department, for a conference regarding methods of reducing the crime rate.

The Crusaders, it was learned, were informed of plans that will be carried out by the police department, but were given no assurance that Negro patrolmen will be added to the force. In fact they were led to believe that such a step is financially impossible at the present time.

The strange feature of the meeting, publicly announced by the council last week, was the fact that almost everyone who attended it was reluctant to talk for publication.

Chief Joyner took the position that the city manager should be the one to give out information. Other police officials just shook their heads and said nothing.

However, it was established among other things, that Chief Joyner recited some figures showing that although there were about 48 killings in Charlotte last year the police department had solved practically all of them.

What makes the wheels of justice turn so slowly was explained with the courts coming in for their share of the criticism. Speedy trial and sure punishment for crime was given as one way of reducing the alarming number of cutting and shooting scrapes in Charlotte.

The Crusaders, it was reported, applauded the practice of the police department of frequently searching patrons of Negro beer parlors, honky-tonks, and hot spots. Many knives and pistols have been removed from Negroes in recent weeks.

The Crusaders, not to be outdone by the figures recited for their benefit, also recited a few themselves to substantiate their claim that Negro policemen should be added to the force.

When given no assurance that a recommendation would be made to the council for the employment of one or two Negro policemen on "a trial basis" the Crusaders indicated their positive stand would not be altered and that they would continue to push their contentions before the council.

Another meeting the committee from the Crusaders and the city manager and police officials is

scheduled to be held in a month or so.

Negroes interested in the movement for Negro policemen indicated they will continue to press their claims until next spring (election time) if necessary. They argue that other southern cities have used Negro patrolmen and that their services have proved satisfactory.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

N. C. City Studies Naming Of Race Cops

CHARLOTTE, N. C., June 5—Following discussion behind closed doors for more than an hour and a half, of the long pending question of appointment of Negro policemen to serve in the colored residential and business sections of this city, the Police-Fire Committee of the City Council announced Tuesday, that recommendations as to granting or rejection of the proposal had been postponed until its next meeting which is as yet unscheduled.

"We are trying to give the matter due consideration," said Chairman C. C. Beasley who will call the next meeting, "and the entire matter was discussed at length after each member and official present had presented his views." The meeting followed a filing of a request for appointment of two policemen and two truant officers, by a large delegation of leading race citizens, headed by Dr. J. S. N. Tross.

Council Fails To Authorize Negro Officers

Board Devotes Much Time to Discussing Crime Question

A City Council session, packed with important matters, consumed two and a half hours yesterday afternoon.

Almost two hours of the session were devoted to a discussion of the question of employment of Negro policemen but no action was taken.

The nearest approach to definite decision came when Councilman L. R. Sides, declaring that the 47 murders of last year constituted an emergency, moved that the Council declare a state of emergency and instruct Mayor Douglas to appoint peace officers. A State law provides that authority.

MOTION LOSES

The vote on this motion was supported only by Councilmen Sides, Baxter, Nance, and Huntley and was declared lost because of a lack of six votes. Previously Councilman Baxter had moved that the offer of the Negro delegation to raise the money for payment of the salaries of two Negro officers in the Brooklyn section for six months be accepted. This did not receive a second and Councilman Sides expressed opposition to taking money from the Negroes or any other group of citizens for an enterprise that should be financed by public taxation.

Later Councilman Baxter moved that the Council approve the appointment of Negro policemen but this, too, failed to a second. The large Negro delegation, whose spokesmen included Dr. J. S. Nathaniel Tross, Mrs. H. L. McCrorey, and Henry Houston, had asked for two Negro officers to patrol the Brooklyn Negro section in the belief that such a move would tend to curb crime among the city's Negro population. It was brought out that there is no law against the employment of Negro policemen but it was further explained that the Civil Service law provides for examination of applicants and establishment of an eligibility list, from which police appointments are made. The Negro delegation indicated that they would

have qualified Negro citizens take the next Civil Service examination.

FUNDS LACKING

The chief barrier to the appointment of Negro policemen was declared to be a lack of funds in the current budget and as the discussion ended Mayor Douglas suggested that at another time, probably just before July 1, when a new budget period begins. Other items of importance that came before the Council were as follows:

Adoption of a resolution, at the request of the Chamber of Commerce, that the General Assembly be asked to permit the citizens of Charlotte at some future date to say whether they wish to issue bonds for construction of a downtown auditorium. Al Bechtold of the Chamber of Commerce announced that this question will be discussed with members of Mecklenburg's legislative delegation at a dinner to be held Saturday at 6:30 P. M. at the Hotel Charlotte. Members of the Council were invited to attend.

Appointment of a committee, as moved by Councilman Baxter, to study the city's traffic situation in an effort to reduce the number of traffic deaths. Mr. Baxter, quoting from a story in The News of Tuesday, said that the seven traffic deaths so far this month constituted another emergency, and moved the appointment of a committee of three from the Council, along with the City Manager, the Police Chief, and representatives of Charlotte daily newspapers. This committee as named by the Mayor includes Councilmen Baxter, Ward and Little, with James W. Armstrong, City Manager, Chief Harry M. Joyner, and Tom Watkins of The Observ-

er, and Dick Young of The News. This committee will meet at 4 P. M. Monday. Mr. Baxter had suggested rigid examination for licensing automobile drivers, tests for color-blindness, and driving tests under police supervision.

BACKS BOARD

Receipt of a communication from Mrs. V. K. Hart, of a special committee from the Council of Social Agencies, requesting the retention of the special act creating the Parks and Recreation Commission, which under a Council motion is proposed for abolition. She suggested that the next Council, in an effort to integrate the Park Board with the Municipal Government, appoint members of the Recreation Commission from its own personnel. It was later explained that this plan would be in violation of the law, that prohibits dual office holding.

Settlement of the question of legal title to part of Bryant Park in the adoption of a resolution approving an agreement whereby Mrs. Estelle R. Miller and Mrs. Elizabeth M. Hunter of Rock Hill, S. C., will pay to the city in cash \$10,179.60, the original amount of a street assessment against the property. The City will waive all interest, amounting to some \$6,000 in exchange for a clear title to 5.6 acres of the park property. It was explained that this title is vested in the City Government and the property is not restricted to park purposes.

Appointment of a policy-forming committee to provide regulation for use of water from the new water line along Wilkinson Boulevard to Douglas Airport and for fire protection in built-up areas outside the city limits.

Approval of a contract with the United States Government whereby the City will provide the right of way for a sewer line, from the United States Army Air Base to the Irwin Creek sewer outfall.

TRUCKS AND AIRPORT

Issuance of instruction to the City Manager to confer with the Airport Commission for formulation of regulations prohibiting trucks and motor cars on the runways at Douglas Airport. A letter was received from the Eastern Air Lines, explaining that a transport plane had to tip its plane at 4:30 A. M. yesterday to avoid striking a truck that was on the runway.

Received from Jack Moore, on behalf of the Charlotte Central Labor Union, a copy of a statewide civil service bill, which with certain amendment is sponsored by the Central Labor Union and the firemen's union of Charlotte. This amendment provides for a three-man Commission to be appointed by the resident Superior Court judge. The bill provides for appointment of chief of police from

outside the department but limits the appointment of a fire chief to members of the Fire Department.

Ordered J. J. Misenheimer to vacate the Oaklawn Cemetery property so that the City may take possession. This property was taken over by the City some time ago under foreclosure for non-payment of taxes and street assessments.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Charlotte Okehs Race Police

CHARLOTTE, N. C. (ANP)—An ordinance authorizing Police Chief Harry M. Joyner to recommend to the city council two Negro policemen to serve as special police in the Negro district was passed at the council meeting Thursday.

A subsequent ordinance setting up the machinery for naming those special policemen is expected to be presented to the council July 9 by its fire-police committee.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
July 11, 1941

NEGRO POLICEMAN WANTED FOR CITY

Anti-Crime Recommendations of Colored Group Cover 'Switch-Blade' Knives

A committee from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People called on Commissioner of Fire and Police E. R. Betterton yesterday morning, with a request to employ at least one Negro policeman to assist in curbing the crime rate among Negroes.

The committee, headed by Dr. P. A. Stephens, also asked the commissioner for "stricter application of the curfew law, and to curb the switch-blade knife situation which is the deadliest weapon used by our people in creating homicides among us."

The committee was told by the commissioner that there are not sufficient funds to employ any more policemen at the present time and that when funds were available the request would be considered.

As to the "switch-blade knife" situation, the commissioner said, most of the knives being carried come within the limit of the state law as to the length of the blades, which do not measure over four inches.

Dr. Stephens and the Rev. P. D. Kingins were spokesmen for the committee.

The association will meet Sunday at 411 East Ninth street in the colored Masonic hall at 3 p.m., to hear a report from W. O. Bryson, secretary, who represented the organization at the national meeting of the association in Houston, Tex., last month.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

The Negro Policemen

By the appointment of two Negro policemen, the City Council has made what many expect will be, and all of our good citizens should hope will prove to be, a good constructive move in the interest of the preservation of a better degree of law and order.

It is an experiment for which the City Hall authorities deserve to be complimented for their courage in promoting. Courage, for that matter is one very quality in which the present council has shown itself to abound in previous actions, and for the displaying of which there should be no eyebrow lifting in this case.

Much, as we have already commented, will depend upon the character of the appointees as to whether or not the innovation turns out to be satisfactory and a contributing factor toward the deterrence of crime among the Negro population.

In the case of the two men named, the council had the benefit of the judgment of some of the best people of that race who are as interested in this project as any of the whites and who are jealous in seeing that the enterprise succeeds.

The councilmen, therefore, have reason to feel that they have done their utmost in securing the officers who have been appointed and now the pressure goes over to the shoulders of these two men. It is up to them to prove the theory.

This newspaper speaks for the experiment the patience and assisting, cooperative sentiments of all our people who sense the need for radical effort in behalf of crime control in Charlotte and that support in public sentiment upon which its success or failure will largely turn.—The Charlotte Observer.

New York ~~Age~~

New York, N. Y.

NEGRO POLICE IN SOUTHERN CITIES

AN INTERESTING EXPERIMENT being conducted in Charlotte, N. C., in the appointment of two Negroes to that city's Police Department to help fight crime in the colored section of the city. These two policemen have been assigned a scout car and patrol the entire colored area in an effort to curb crime.

Many northern and border cities have found Negro officers an asset to their law enforcing bodies but so far as we know, this is the only city in the South using Negroes. Should it be successful, we are sure that it will be tried in other cities of that section.

Negroes understand each other better than anyone else and for that reason should make better law enforcing officers for their own people than white officers. The State of North Carolina and the City of Charlotte again prove they are the most progressive in the South by being first in adopting this experiment.

NOV 8 1941

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
October 23, 1941**Negro Officers May Be Assigned A Car**

Such a Move Would Facilitate Police Coverage Of the City's Negro Districts and Probably Eliminate the Need For Additional Patrolmen.

Faced with the problem of curbing increased Negro delinquency, but with no funds to employ additional Negro officers for patrol duty, the council's police and fire committee may recommend that the two present patrolmen be assigned a radio car to facilitate coverage of the city's black districts, C. C. Beasley, chairman of the official group, said yesterday.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
October 19, 1941

"We're trying to work out a plan whereby the two Negro officers may be given use of an automobile as soon as the seven new cars authorized for the department have been ordered," Mr. Beasley reported. "These boys have done a creditable job, and I believe that the experiment entered into in employing them has been a success. But they can't cover much territory on foot."

Specifications for the new police equipment, he added, are now being compiled and will be presented to the council at its next session. Included in the order are six cars designated to replace present badly worn machines, and an extra automobile for Police Chief Harry M. Joyner.

The two Negro officers, James Ross and Henry Houston were added to the force several months ago in answer to a request from a Negro committee headed by Dr. J. S. Nathaniel Tross. In the measure authorizing their employment was a stipulation that they patrol "on foot" whatever sections the Chief assigned.

Lately, however, the reported prevalence of vice in Charlotte's Negro areas has promoted a request from the civic leaders for two more Negro officers, as well as two plainclothesmen for duty in the specific sectors.

Mayor E. McA. Currie,
Members of City Council.
Gentlemen:

It should be gratifying to Charlotte citizens generally, as it is to us who favored the experiment of Negro police officers to work in densely populated Negro sections of the city, that Chief Harry Joyner is convinced that the work of the two appointed early in July has been highly successful and has resulted in curtailment of serious crimes in the neighborhood where they have been active.

It seems to me significant that these two Negro officers within three months after they began work July 10, made 179 arrests and that convictions in court resulted in 167 or 93.2 per cent of the cases.

I believe Chief Joyner is correct in his idea that, whereas most of the arrests made by the two Negro officers were for drunkenness and disorderly conduct, since such disturbers of the peace usually are responsible for graver crimes, bringing them into court has had the effect of curbing violence, such as murders and slashings.

If the good results from the appointment of two Negro officers continue to be demonstrated, it will be in order, in my opinion, to appoint additional ones to serve in other Negro neighborhoods with bad crime records.

GENERAL MECKLENBURG.

GENERAL MECKLENBURG.

Co-operate With Negro Officer

In a case before him this week, Judge Bailey Lipfert, of our Municipal Court, served notice on Negro violators of the law that he would expect them to show the same respect for the Negro policeman as for white officers.

The occasion of this commendable speech from the bench was the arraignment of a Negro defendant on the charge of abusing and resisting an officer. The offense occurred when Policeman Joyce, colored, arrested a Negro for attempted assault on another colored man.

One significant and encouraging feature of this case was the appearance in the courtroom of James Lark, colored, who witnessed the arrest. He was a bystander when the trouble took place. But he was not content to remain merely a bystander. When Lark saw that the Negro policeman might have some difficulty in enforcing the law, he promptly went to the aid of the officer, and assisted him in making the arrest and bringing the obstreperous defendant to justice.

When the defendant was brought into court, Lark was there with the Negro policeman and didn't hesitate to tell the Judge all he knew about the case. He not only co-operated with the officer on the street, but he backed him up in the courtroom.

Such action on the part of a colored citizen is highly commendable, and we cite it here for encouragement to others. If good Negro citizens throughout Winston-Salem will give the Negro officer similar support and co-operation, and join the Judge in demanding proper respect for him, there will be no question about the success of his work in the field of law enforcement in this community.

For many years many of our Negro citizens have been petitioning city authorities for Negro officers to help bring the criminal element of their race to justice. In response to their petitions a Negro policeman was employed. We believe it is safe to predict that his continued employment, as well as the employment of other Negro policemen in the future, will depend upon the type of cooperation this officer receives from the Negro population of Winston-

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
July 12, 1941

The Negro Policemen

By the appointment of two Negro policemen, the city council has made what many expect will be, and all of our good citizens should hope will prove to be, a good, constructive move in the interest of the preservation of a better degree of law and order.

It is an experiment for which the city hall authorities deserve to be complimented for their courage in promoting. Courage, for that matter is one vital quality in which the present council has shown itself to abound in previous actions, and for the displaying of which there should be no eyebrow lifting in this case.

Much, as we have already commented, will depend upon the character of the appointees as to whether or not the innovation turns out to be satisfactory and a contributing factor toward the deterrence of crime among the Negro population.

In the case of the two named, the council had the benefit of the judgment of some of the best people of that race who are as interested in this project as any of the whites and who are jealous in seeing that the enterprise succeeds.

The councilmen, therefore, have reason to feel that they have done their utmost in securing the officers who have been appointed and now the pressure goes over to the shoulders of these two men. It is up to them to prove the theory.

This newspaper bespeaks for the experiment the patience and assisting, cooperative sentiments of all our people who sense the need for radical effort in behalf of crime control in Charlotte and that support in public sentiment upon which its success or failure will largely turn.—The Charlotte Observer.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
July 12, 1941



DRESSED FOR DUTY Outfitted in brand-new uniforms and with badges shining, Charlotte's two newly-appointed Negro policemen assumed duties on the six-to-two night shift yesterday, charged with maintaining law and order in four Negro-populated city areas. Below, A. M. Houston (left) talks it over with James S. Ross before the two left for their stations. (Observer Staff photo.)

NEGRO POLICE GET UNIFORMS

United Efforts Of Several City
Officials Provide Outfits
For Officers.

United efforts of several city officials resulted yesterday in the outfitting of Charlotte's newly-appointed Negro police officers with special summer-weight uniforms.

The move was approved by Chief Harry M. Joyner after conferences with City Manager James W. Armstrong and members of the local police committee.

Designed to lend emphasis to the authoritative status of the two Negro policemen, the uniforms consist of a cap with official police emblem, blue shirt, black bow tie, gray trousers, black shoes. Equipment includes belt and holster, gun, nightstick, and police badge.

Both uniform and equipment are furnished from departmental funds, it was said.

The new officers, A. M. Houston and James S. Ross, assumed duties last night at 6 o'clock with an initial patrol in the Brooklyn area.

Other sections under their supervision will include Biddleville, Greenville, Cherrytown, and the Negro-populated district of the First ward.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
July 10, 1941

THE NEGRO POLICEMEN.

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Charlotte, N. C. Observer
July 10, 1941

COUNCIL NAMES SPECIAL NEGRO LAW OFFICERS

\$100 Monthly Salaries Authorized For Appointees.

HOUSTON, ROSS PICKED

Teachers' Retirement Fund to Be Held Up Until Legality Is Determined.

In a session marked by two split-votes and several

opinionated discussions, city councilmen yesterday:

1—Authorized the employment of A. M. Houston and James S. Ross as special Negro police officers for a period of not more than one year at a monthly salary of \$100 each.

2—Approved a \$405,010.08 city school budget with the provision that \$17,124.75 of the amount—representing the anticipated sum the school board will be required to contribute to the teachers' retirement fund—shall not be allotted until the legality of the expenditure has been determined by a test case.

3—Passed a resolution forbidding the placement of vending machines on city property.

4—Gave the go-signal to city tax officials for advertising delinquent property owners prior to contemplated sale of the property involved on the second Monday in September.

OTHER BUSINESS.

Other measures drawing councilmanic approval during the afternoon's 90-minute session included a request for roping off a section of Euclid avenue for use by Soap Box derby contestants; free use of the Armory-Auditorium October 7-11 to the Moody Bible institute; formal appointment of H. B. Campbell to joint city attorneyship with C. W. Tillett; naming the new street link between North Tryon and Statesville avenue "Dalton avenue"; operating a street sprinkler "shower bath" at the corner of South McDowell and Stonewall streets twice-daily for the benefit of Negro children in the area; expenditure of \$2,616.30 in city funds for miscellaneous purchases and construction.

The nine members present passed unanimously a motion by Councilman C. B. Ross that future use of the Armory-Auditorium for charitable purposes shall be granted only upon payment of operation costs by the contracting parties, and those costs were set at \$15 without heat, \$20 heated.

\$3,000 CLAIM.

Notice of claim against the city for \$3,000 was filed by Mrs. Lillie Drakeford as compensation for injuries she is said to have suffered when she fell in what the claim alleges was a defective water meter box lid near 315 South Caldwell street.

Employment of the Negro police officers brought the afternoon's first verbal disagreement, with Councilman W. N. Hovis, Claude L. Albea, and A. Parks Little opposing the move.

Councilman John S. Ward and Lester W. Slye were absent.

Prior to the 6-3 vote on Councilman C. C. Beasley's motion providing for appointment of the two Negro officers at the \$100-monthly salary, Councilman C. B. Ross entered the discussion with a proposal that the pay-scale be set at \$85 a month, pending a test of the appointees' capabilities.

After Mr. Beasley had defended the police committee's recommended salary, however, the motion was carried with the higher pay-scale inserted.

The appointment resolution defined the areas which Houston, a local printer, and Ross, an employee of Pettit Motor company, shall patrol, fixing their term of service "during the pleasure, and at the discretion, of the council, but not longer than one year from this date, July 9, 1941."

Charlotte, N. C. News
July 8, 1941

Houston and Ross To Be Negro Cops City Council Must Approve

Agreement to recommend the appointment of James Ross, 833 N. Hamilton Street, and A. M. Houston, 715 S. McDowell Street, as Negro police officers of the Charlotte Police Department was reached at a meeting of the City Council's police committee yesterday afternoon.

The recommendations will be presented at the City Council for approval tomorrow afternoon by Councilman C. C. Beasley, chairman of the committee.

Houston, 38-year-old printer, is son of Henry Houston, Negro newspaper publisher. He is five feet, eight inches tall and weighs 205 pounds. Ross, age 37, is employed at the Pettit Motor Co. and is six feet one inch tall and weighs 180 pounds.

\$100 PER MONTH

It was indicated that recommendation will also be made to pay the Negro officers \$100 a month. They will work in plainclothes and will be assigned to Negro areas exclusively.

Present for yesterday's afternoon conference were members of the police committee: Chairman Beasley, Claude L. Albea, A. Z. Price and Charles H. Daughtry, substituting for Lester W. Slye, absent on vacation. James W. Armstrong, city manager, and Harry M. Joyner, chief of police, were present along with members of the Negro advisory committee including Dr. J. S. Nathaniel Tross, Thad Tate, and Henry Houston. Other Negroes recommended by

the advisory committee were Charlie Brown, 1605 Pharr Street, James Taylor, 522 Mill Road, and William Johnson, 630 E. Eighth Street. Another applicant, R. T. Miller, 804 Canton Street, appeared before the committee.

Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch
July 28, 1941

Charlotte's Two Negro Policemen

THE municipal government of Charlotte, N. C., has employed two Negro police officers for a period of "not more than one year" at a salary of \$100 per month each, in an effort to reduce its high crime rate, especially in the sections of the city where Negroes live. It is not the first Southern city to undertake the experiment (it has been successful even further South), but the fact that the Virginia and North Carolina Commissions on Interracial Co-operation are closely associated, makes the Charlotte adventure especially interesting. The missionary work done by the North Carolina commission entitles it to a share of the credit, for what may prove to be a step forward in Charlotte. Much, of course, depends on the character of the Negro officers appointed.

There is no question of the soundness of the theory on which the Negro peace officers are commissioned. It has already proved itself in many fields. Negro social workers do far better work among their own people than white case workers; Negroes have made excellent supervisors and administrators in institutional work among the colored, and have been notably successful resident managers of Negro housing projects.

The reasons for the success of Negro policemen, in keeping order in the Negro wards of the cities in which they are employed, are chiefly psychological. By entrusting the Negro race with symbols of social responsibility, the city gets a dividend in responsible conduct from those whose hostility and aggression may be, in part, due to the fact that they do not feel that they are a part of community life. The planting of Negro "stool pigeons" in colored residential sections to assist in law enforcement is, in the opinion of many Negroes, adding insult to injury. Many, and perhaps most Negro stool pigeons, are themselves the most disreputable characters, who gain a measure of protection from the police by reporting on their fellows. To further his own schemes, sometimes this species of informer becomes an *agent provocateur*. With courts lenient toward Negroes who commit crimes of violence against other Negroes—so long as their violence is confined to the colored sections of the city—the climate could hardly be more favorable for aggression and social irresponsibility.

Charlotte has taken a step in the other

direction, and Richmond might well follow its example.

Advertiser Montgomery, Ala. The Negro Policemen

By the appointment of two Negro policemen the city council has made what many expect will be, and all of our good citizens should hope will prove to be, a good, constructive move in the interest of the preservation of a better degree of law and order.

It is an experiment for which the city authorities deserve to be complimented for their courage in promoting. Courage, for that matter is one vital quality in which the present council has shown itself to abound in previous actions, and for the displaying of which there should be no eyebrow lifting in this case.

Much, as we have already commented, will depend upon the character of the appointees as to whether or not the innovation turns out to be satisfactory and a contributing factor toward the deterrence of crime among the Negro population.

In the case of the two men named, the council had the benefit of the judgment of some of the best people of that race who are as interested in this project as any of the whites and who are jealous in seeing that the enterprise succeeds.

The councilmen, therefore, have reason to feel that they have done their utmost in securing the officers who have been appointed and now the pressure goes over to the shoulders of these two men. It is up to them to prove the theory.

This newspaper bespeaks for the experiment the patience and assisting, cooperative sentiments of all our people who sense the need for radical effort in behalf of crime control in Charlotte and that support in public sentiment upon which its success or failure will largely turn.—The Charlotte Observer.

Charlotte Race Police Make History



Making history are these two Negro police officers of Charlotte, N. C., who were "caught" by the Guide cameraman as they chatted with civic leaders. Appointed a month ago, both have won the respect and admiration of both races. Recently they made 21 arrests in one weekend and received the same number of convictions. In the above picture are: left to right, William Tillman, Ned Davis, A. M. Houston, and James S. Ross. Mr. Davis is executive secretary of the Charlotte Negro Chamber of Commerce.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia
Negro Policemen

In The South

From Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch

In Charlotte, N. C., which last year held the high murder record for the country, two upstanding young Negroes have been appointed to the police force, and in Raleigh, says the Norfolk Journal and Guide, seven young Negroes have taken the examinations for appointments to the police and

fire departments. "More and more during the entire convention, and responsible leaders and agencies we are inclined to think that not in the South," says the Journal and Guide, "as well as the white press, are accepting as sound principle on which the appointment of colored officers is based." area as there normally were, but the Negro volunteers relieved them of all work.

There is no question in the mind of any informed person, we think, of the value of Negro policemen in dealing with the Negro population. If there ever had been any doubt as to that in Virginia, it was dissipated some years ago by the experience of whether he is on or off, if he sees Richmond when thousands and thousands of Negro Elks assemblers there for their national convention. These men, away from their homes on a lark, were assigned by the local management of the convention to one section of the city—following their parade—and the whole huge convention was policed by colored volunteer policemen, men in civilian clothes distinguished only by badges. No similar convention that this newspaper has ever heard of was marked by so complete an absence of disorder as that one. It has been some years now, but we are under the impression that not one single arrest was made for drunkenness

NORTH CAROLINA

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia
Negro Policemen

From The Charlotte Observer

BY THE appointment of two Negro policemen, the City Council has made what many expect will be, and all of our good citizens should hope will prove to be, a good, constructive move in the interest of the preservation of a better degree of law and order.

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Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia
Charlotte's Experiment
Proving Successful

IT is pleasing to note that the two policemen put on duty in Charlotte, North Carolina, a year ago, have made such a good record that the city authorities are writing the experiment down as a success. While the City Council denied a recent request for additional men it decided to provide the two already employed with a radio car. This indicates that they are to be retained and their usefulness extended.

During the year they have been on duty they have made an efficiency rating of 93.2. A Journal and Guide reporter who was sent to Charlotte to observe how the experiment was working found that crime had been reduced 50 per cent in a given area patrolled by the officers. In one particularly bad spot, where 33 murders were committed the year previous there had not occurred "even a cutting scrape" under their surveillance.

The Charlotte police department is backing up the men in every way necessary to make their work effective, and the relations between them and the white members of the force are cordial.

In time Charlotte will find it profitable to add additional colored men to the police force. A year is a brief period in which to experiment with so delicate a problem as the use of colored policemen presents in the south. Charlotte is accordingly moving cautiously, and other southern cities are doubtless watching the experiment. When all the skeptics are convinced that such a policy is workable it will be adopted in other cities interested, as Charlotte is, in applying the best available methods to crime prevention.

Meanwhile Charlotte is to be commended for taking this leadership in more effective crime control, and officers Rouse and Houston are to be congratulated upon their fine record.

What About Negro Policemen?

During the past few weeks, ever since announcement was made that Charlotte had employed two colored men to work in the Negro sections of that city, the question has been raised here as to why the board of aldermen do not employ at least two members of the race to work in the more thickly populated Negro sections.

Several citizens have been questioned for opinions on the proposition and it was revealed that there is quite a difference of opinion. A few said that it might be worth trying out, while others were free to say that there is a class of colored citizens who would resent the appointment of members of their race, it being contended that they would very often refuse to be arrested by a Negro officer.

Others admitted that if the officials should appoint one or more like the late Joe Long as a plainclothes officer, he might be accepted by the Negroes. "However, my idea is that if a uniform with brass buttons should be placed on such a 'cop,' I can see trouble brewing as soon as he appeared in any section where a fight is going on between several colored men or women," declared a retired member of the force.

Charlotte N. C. Observer
September 11, 1941

Vice Stressed In Plea For More Negro Police

Negro Minister Declares Unpatrolled Areas Infested With Prostitution and With Crime Among Juveniles.

A verbal picture of Charlotte's vice-infested Negro districts was drawn for city councilmen yesterday by Dr. J. S. N. Tross, local Negro minister, who made an appeal for the appointment of two additional Negro police officers and two Negro detectives in an effort to curb what he described as "conditions that will inevitably give rise to a tidal wave of crimes."

The request was referred for police and fire committee consideration after Dr. Tross had cited an infestation of prostitution in some sections so bad that we have to step over them to go in our homes and offices; have to drag them forcibly from our cars.

"More than two-thirds of these prostitutes and criminals are teenage juveniles," he declared, "and many of them have been brought here from outlying cities and towns to practice their professions in the comparative freedom that Charlotte allows."

Reading from a prepared statement, he continued:

"The appointment of Negro policemen by you has had immediate and magical effect wherever these officers have appeared in line of duty.

We have come today to ask, in the light of their achievement and the

Aldermen Appoint Negro Policeman

Announcement of the appointment of John C. Joyce Negro, as a special police officer highlighted a city-wide music festival yesterday in Bowman Gray Memorial Stadium attended by more than 5,000 Negroes and 2,000 white persons.

The announcement of the first Negro appointment to the police force was made by Police Chief Walter F. Anderson in the midst of a program which included talks by Dr. Howard Rondthaler, Professor Jack Atkins, of Winston-Salem Teachers College, and a message from Mayor R. J. Reynolds, read by Grady Conrad. The appointment is effective October 1.

Joyce was appointed by the aldermen on recommendation of the police department. He will have full police powers among the Negro population, but may not arrest any white persons. He will not wear a uniform.

His work will be centered mainly on juvenile delinquency among Negro boys and girls. The department plans to set up a Red Shield club among Negroes similar to that of the Salvation Army—and Joyce will head up this job. Chief Anderson said a Negro advisory board will be named to assist in the work.

Experience

Joyce was in charge of the Negro detention home until it was discontinued in September, 1940 and since that time has been a watchman at the armory.

Chief Anderson said Joyce was selected after careful consideration; he will have the full support of the police department, the chief said. "We hope and believe," he added, "that he will get the support of the Negro community at large."

Joyce thus becomes the first Negro police officer Winston-Salem ever had. Walter Long, who was commissioned by a detective agency, worked for years in co-operation with the department, but was never on its pay roll.

The festival, in which hundreds of Negro voices blended in a series of songs depicting the Negro life from slavery time to the present, was sponsored by the police department and Junior Chamber of Commerce through the music committee of the Civic Welfare League. The league is a related

organization of the Negro Home and Welfare Association.

Mayor's Endorsement

In his talk delivered by proxy Mayor Reynolds said the plan for better racial understanding has his full support and sympathy, and predicted that the Negro community will be better off as result of the new movement for a Red Shield club for young Negroes. He is intensely interested, he said, in any movement aimed at the improvement of the Negro's life.

Dr. Rondthaler appealed for substantial offering in a collection taken to start the plan working.

Professor Atkins extended greetings from the Negroes, and thanked the sponsors for their part in the program.

Grady Conrad, president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, was master of ceremonies.

The music, presented by various choruses, quartettes and choral clubs, several of which were from schools, consisted of numerous spirituals, songs of burden, jubilee songs, school songs and church anthems. Periods represented included slavery, reconstruction, industrial and the twentieth century. Rev. Thomas Kilgore acted as narrator.

Drills and formation were presented by the Morris Slaughter Post bugle corps. Rev. R. M. Pitts, president of the Civic Welfare League, presented the master of ceremonies.

Invocation was made by Bishop Shaw, benediction by Rev. R. F. McCallum.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Police Experiment Proving Successful

By ALEX RIVERA
Staff Correspondent

CHARLOTTE, N. C. — In a further move to fight crime here, plans are underfoot to furnish this city's first two colored policemen, James S. Ross and A. M. Houston, with a scout car equipped with two-way radio. The projected action is also a compliment to the fine record already made by the two officers.

The city is faced with a prob-

been authorized, he said, and will be ordered soon. "These officers have done a creditable job, and I believe that the experiment entered into in employing them has been a success. But they can't cover much territory on foot."

Officers Ross and Houston were added to the force last July 10 in response to a request from a committee headed by Dr. J. S. Nathaniel Tross.

In the measure authorizing their employment it was stipulated that they patrol whatever sections the chief of police assigned.

Lately, however, the job of fighting crime in Charlotte's Negro sections has suggested that additional colored officers were needed to adequately handle the situation.

ADDITIONS ASKED

For this reason colored leaders asked for two more patrolmen and two plainclothesmen for duty in the sections affected. A petition to Council was drafted by the committee headed by Dr. Tross.

Council did not grant the requests embodied in the petition and plans as an alternate the furnishing of the present officers with the scout car.

If at the end of the year of service by the two colored officers, it is felt that their appointment has been beneficial they will be given permanent appointments.

FINE RECORD

Already their record has been acclaimed highly satisfactory and the experiment a success. Out of 179 arrests they have received 169 convictions, or an efficiency rating of 93.2. For October they have made 24 arrests and got 22 convictions.

Prior to their appointment 84 percent of the homicides here were committed by Negroes, and since their appointment, crime has been reduced 50 per cent.

lem in curbing crime but has no funds to employ additional colored officers for patrol duty, so the City Council's police and fire committee was reported last weekend as ready to recommend the assigning of a scout car to the two colored officers to facilitate better coverage of the city's colored areas. C. C. Beasley, chairman of the official group, made the plan known.

CARS ORDERED

Seven scout cars have already

Last year 33 murders were committed at McDowell and First Streets and since their appointment this corner hasn't had even a cutting scrape, according to information gathered here. Business men on their beat have praised them to the highest and lament the fact that there are not more colored men assigned to the section.

51-1941
Charlotte, N. C. News
January 20, 1941

Negro Police Plan Studied

City Officials Seek More Information

Following their recent conference with a committee of The Crusaders, in which they were asked to employ a small number of Negro policemen to work in the Negro communities to help reduce the high local crime rate, City officials today were continuing the study started in that conference.

The question may come up at Wednesday afternoon's meeting of the City Council, but if it does, officials thought, there will not be enough data assembled by then on which to make a decision.

The officials were confronted with the practical side of the question, how Negro policemen might be best utilized, if employed; how their training should differ, if at all, from that of other officers; what changes should be made in the present operation of the department to accommodate the new experiment; how other cities have used Negro policemen and under what conditions they used them.

Charlotte, N. C. News
January 18, 1941

To Press for Negro Cops

City Council To Get Request Wednesday

The City Council will hear more about Negro policemen and crime in the Negro sections of Charlotte when it meets next Wednesday.

This much appeared certain today as apparently the only definite result of a conference held yesterday at City Hall with officials of the Community Crusaders, a Negro civic organization, and police officers.

City Manager James W. Armstrong, Chief Harry M. Joyner, police captains and Detective Captain Frank N. Littlejohn met with the Negro leaders to discuss the proposal, but all were reluctant to talk about the conference.

It was understood that the Crusaders were given no assurance

that Negro policemen will be employed to patrol Negro sections. The Crusaders committee and the police officials will probably hold another meeting in about a month.

Charlotte, N. C. News
January 19, 1941

Quiet About Negro Police

Crusaders To Appear Before City Council

All was quiet at City Hall yesterday concerning the proposal that Negro police officers be employed. Publicly, not a word was said. But practically everything pointed to the negative side of the picture.

Further discussion of the plan is expected to take place Wednesday afternoon at the City Council meeting. A committee from the Community Crusaders, a Negro organization which was founded for the purpose of combating crime in the Negro sections, probably will appear before the Council to renew its plea for Negro officers.

COUNCIL'S DECISION

Whether the move is to be made will be left with the Councilmen, according to all indications yesterday.

The Crusaders committee, composed of Mrs. H. L. McCrorey, Thad Tate and Dr. J. S. Nathaniel Tross, met with City Manager James W. Armstrong, Police Chief Harry M. Joyner and other police officials Friday, but very little word has come from that meeting.

There is a likelihood, however, that some sort of report on the question will be made to the Council.

NORTH CAROLINA
Charlotte, N. C. News
January 15, 1941

Hearing On Negro Cops Is Called

To Discuss Question At Meeting Friday

The question of employing Negro policemen to patrol certain areas of Charlotte in an effort to cut down the widespread Negro crime will get a thorough hearing Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, it was announced today.

At that time a special committee appointed by the City Council last week will meet with leading Negro representatives to discuss all phases of the proposal. On the committee representing the City are City Manager J. W. Armstrong, Police Chief Harry Joyner, Detective Captain Frank N. Littlejohn, and Police Captains Alex West, C. T. Brown, and J. S. Hord.

Representing the Negroes will be Dr. J. S. Nathaniel Tross, Mrs. H. L. McCrorey, and Thad Tate.

ASK NEW PLANS

Negro spokesmen appeared before the Council last Wednesday and praised the recent move by the Police Department to search certain Negro quarters regularly and arrest those persons carrying guns or other concealed weapons. They asked that Negro policemen be appointed as the most effective method of reducing crime among members of the race.

City and police officials, while readily admitting favorable aspects of the proposal, have pointed out certain practical difficulties, and it is thought that the Friday afternoon conference will result in a definite decision one way or the other.

Charlotte, N. C. News
January 17, 1941

Southern Cities Using Negro Police With Much Success

The News Learns How Other Cities Have Handled Race Problem

When a group of Charlotte police officials and Negro leaders met this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock to discuss the question of hiring Negro policemen to patrol Negro districts, they were discussing a problem that has already been solved in many Southern cities, a mail questionnaire sent out by the editors of The Charlotte News disclosed today.

In order to give a thorough hearing to the proposal which was made by leading Negro citizens some time ago, City Manager James W.

Armstrong, Police Chief Harry M. Joyner and others gathered at City Hall.

Among those meeting were Police Captains Alex West, C. T. Brown and J. S. Hord, and Detective Captain Frank N. Littlejohn. The Negroes were represented by Dr. J. S. Nathaniel Tross, Mrs. H. L. McCrorey, and Thad Tate.

SYSTEM SUCCESSFUL

In answer to letters sent to them by The News, police heads in several Southern cities stated that they employ Negro officers and that the system is successful. The Negro policemen in all these cities are assigned to Negro districts solely, and in some cities they are not allowed to arrest white persons, it was disclosed.

The detective chief of Galveston, Texas, for instance replied that his department has eleven Negro officers on its payroll. And Knoxville, Tenn., employs six Negro policemen.

Following is the letter which The News sent to the police heads of Southern cities:

"We are told that you have Negro policemen in your department. If that is so, it would be nice of you to let us know something about how many Negro officers you have, what your experience with them has been and what sort of restrictions

they are under as to arresting white people.

"It has been proposed here (in Charlotte) that Negro policemen be tried, principally to see if they could not bring down the murder rate, which is the highest in the country. It would be of much help to us to know your opinion of and experience with their use."

GETS ANSWERS

The News emphasized the question of Negro officers in relation to the arresting of white persons. Here are the answers:

GALVESTON

"Editors, The News: Replying to your letter of Dec. 30, 1940, we wish to state that we have eleven Negro officers on this department. Our entire department consists of 75 officers.

"The condition that exist in this city is that about 4,000 of our 65,000 are Negroes, and by having Negro police officers we are aided in keeping down crime in the Negro sections of the city. The Negro officers in this city know their place as a "Negro" and at no time do they ever get out of line with white persons. Occasionally a Negro officer will arrest a white man in drunken condition or if the occasion arises and an arrest of a white man has to be made and a white officer is not at the scene of the crime.

"I wish to further state that the Negro officers work is very satisfactory to the department and the citizens of this city. (Signed) Dave Henry, Chief of Detectives, Galveston, Texas."

KNOXVILLE

"Editors, The News: In reference to your letter of Dec. 30th, I wish to state that we have six Negro police officers, three of which drive the patrol wagon and three on beats. We have had colored police officers ever since there has been a city. These colored officers are assigned to colored dis-

tricts and they arrest white people just the same as Negroes if they violate the law.

"I wish to state that Negro officers are assigned to colored districts only. Their service in the colored districts is all right. They are never assigned to white districts. (Signed) L. M. York, Chief of Police, Knoxville, Tenn."

HOUSTON

"Editors, The News: This acknowledges your letter of Dec. 30th, relative to Negro officers. We have four Negro patrolmen who are assigned to work in the colored section of the city. They are not permitted to arrest white people. (Signed) L. C. Brown, Chief of Police, Houston, Texas."

DAYTONA BEACH

"Editors, The News: For your information, we employ four Negro policemen on our department. Their duties are confined entirely to our Negro population, in the Negro section of our city. They never attempt to handle any matter involving white people, and are kept among their own people at all times. The system has worked to a good advantage in our city, and the Negro officers have produced very good results, for our department. Hoping this information will be of value to you. (Signed) T. N. Johnson, Chief of Police, Daytona Beach, Fla."

Charlotte, N. C. News
February 6, 1941

Negro Christian Urges Policemen of Race

Dear Sir:

I was at the City Council meeting when the final hearing was given to the very competent committee representing the Crusaders in their plea for the employment of Negro policemen as a means of curbing crime among Negroes. The Council gave a respectful and sympathetic hearing to the Negro group, devoting upwards of two hours to this problem. Speaking as a citizen I believe that, for the best interest of the City of Charlotte and our democratic form of government, we should have Negro policemen, not only in Negro sections, but as traffic officers, guard-

ing the life of our citizens, and especially our school children.

The crime wave in Charlotte and has been on the increase for many years. Any careful sociological survey of the crime infested areas will reveal the causes for this upward swing in the crime wave. As casual observers we know that dens, dives, poorly lighted areas, poor housing conditions, blind tigers, low wage scales, common law marital relations, lack of adequate police protection, and laxity in the

prosecution of criminals who commit crimes against the less fortunate groups contribute toward the crime among Negroes, and that the causes must be removed before we can expect any reasonable decrease in crime.

Any one who has carefully studied crime realizes that it is not racial, but that it grows out of conditions that are conducive to it, slightly aided and nurtured by degenerates, morons and the mentally weak. All races possess such persons in small numbers. Institutions of correction should be provided for those who are thus mentally sick. The type of jails and houses of detention that we have in our community are not designed as institutions of correction for criminals, especially those that are provided for the Negroes. The Negro girls who have "made a mistake" in our community are often left to drift and the result is that they become criminals of some sort. The Negro boys who are first and second offenders, and who rapidly become our worst criminals, do not have adequate care and protection. If we are to reduce crime, these first and second minor offenders must receive corrective treatment and be given an opportunity to live the abundant life as citizens in our community. We need institutions of correction for our youth, institutions for our expectant young mothers who have been victims of degenerate seduc-

It is unfair to the Negro race to have him painted so black to the world because of the crime wave that now grips Charlotte, when the Negro has not had a fair chance in this city.

The Negro feels that Negro policemen will help in the solution of crime among Negroes in our most congested areas. But Negro policemen will not solve the problem, and it is unfair to place such responsibility on any kind of peace officer. When we get our Negro policemen, and I feel certain that we will, we need not expect any magic solution of the crime in Charlotte. Some other things must happen concurrently—the things mentioned above.

—BUFORD F. GORDON

Editor, Church School Literature
A. M. E. Zion Church
Charlotte.

Rich Polat. N. C. Enterprise
July 12, 1941

CHARLOTTE UNIFORMS FIRST NEGRO COPS

Few Southern cities have Negro policemen, despite the fact that Negroes sometimes constitute fifty per cent of the population and furnish a disproportionate amount of disorder requiring police.

Charlotte has hired two and has placed them in uniform following prolonged discussion of the wisdom of the policy. The Negro cops will confine their patrolling to the areas where the people of their race live and almost exclusively operate.

The experiment in bi-racial policing of a small Southern city will be watched with interest by municipal governors throughout the South, we fancy. The plan to use Negroes to help police the lawless and protect the law-abiding seems a sensible one for the development of interracial cooperation.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
June 19, 1941

NEGRO POLICEMEN.

Use of Negro policemen will be an experiment here, one that is fraught with possibilities for a great deal of effective law enforcement and one, as well, that may fizzle out entirely as a means for curbing crime among the more vicious element of that race.

Much depends upon the men who are chosen to serve. If the wrong sort should mistakenly be given a badge of authority and that authority should be abused, it will be too bad.

On the contrary, if these officers are men who know their places, appreciate the delicate nature of their duties, exercise due caution and behave themselves properly under all conditions, there is no reason that the innovation should not turn out happily.

There is sentiment in Charlotte against the investment of police authority in the hands of members of this race.

Fear is expressed that it may be productive of color trouble. Skepticism abounds as to whether Negro police officers will be effectual in enforcing the law among their own race. And there are some with so much racial prejudice that they do not easily resign themselves to this touch of official equality.

This newspaper does not share in any

of these sentiments. We believe the majority of our people will heartily approve of this enterprise and applaud it as being timely and wise.

At any rate, the experiment is worth making. Other Southern communities have tried it out and to their relish. It has provoked none of the evils being imagined as likely to develop here.

Those in police authority in the Council and in the department will, of course, be scrupulously careful about the character of the officers they select for this difficult post.

Discriminating judgment is essential. The right temperament must be among the primary qualifications. These officers not only have laws to enforce, but they have prejudices and racial obstacles to overcome. The authorities can not be too careful, therefore, in making their pick of the two who will be empowered to undertake this important official authority.

Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser
July 12, 1941

The Stab Of Intolerance

The Council Against Intolerance in America makes the ominous statement that it possesses "evidence that divisive propaganda is being used by the Nazis to disrupt morale in the camps." To help counter these efforts it has just issued a program handbook, "Calling All Americans," for use by group leaders working with the troops.

There are passages in this booklet that ought to make any soldier think: "Men of all races, men of all religions call themselves Americans; men with names like Richards and with names like Schultz, Isaacs, Ryan, Alvarado, Kovacs and Piazza." Or this: "Let's take a look at ourselves. When you were a youngster, what kind of people did your family dislike? Did you hear talk at home against the Jews or the Negroes or the Catholics or the Methodists or the Chinese? Did you hate city people or Bostonians or Southerners, or those who didn't speak English very well?"

To think a prejudice through to its sources is sometimes to get rid of it. A soldier in battle isn't likely to ask the religion or racial origin of the man at his side. He wants to know will he stand or run, will he help a man when he's hurt, will he share his water or his rations when there isn't enough. His name may be Adams, Paradiso, Garrity, Feinberg, Ferentchak, Schmidt, Olsen or Marquette—men with these names all won the Distinguished Service Cross in the last war. The name doesn't matter.

But in this war we are all soldiers. A sneer, an unworthy discrimination, may be a blow struck for Hitler, may strike down a loyal comrade at our side.—The New York Times.

AS TO NEGRO POLICEMEN.

The special committee of police executives appointed by the City Council to confer with Negro leaders in regard to the appointment of Negro policemen for patrol duties in areas thickly populated by this race should enter this consultation this afternoon with no preconceived notions or prejudices of any kind.

So far as it can detect public opinion, The Observer is convinced that the innovation is widely favored by the law-respecting people of this community and that they consider it a wise move in the interest of combatting the prevalent wave of crime, especially murders among the Negroes.

Leaders of that race are insistent that the experiment be tried.

These are good people, law-loving and law-obeying Negroes who are interested in the betterment of their community and those of their own color.

It is not a matter of politics or social standing or anything else with them except curbing this crime epidemic.

They are honest, well-intentioned and patriotic citizens of this race who are urging this step, concurred in, as we say, by many of the best white citizens of Charlotte.

Frankly, this newspaper does not see why there should be any hesitation or reluctance on the part of the City Council in going ahead with this enterprise.

And it is, therefore, to be hoped that the special commission of police officers who will enter this consultation today with leaders of the Negro race here will try to look at this problem in a clear-sighted and wholly detached way, freed altogether from racial or any other kind of obstructing and beclouding bias.

'WHAT DID HE MEAN?

The Charlotte city council was in session. The council was debating the matter of employing two Negro policemen for the colored section of the city. Some members of the council were in favor of hiring the colored officers and others were opposed. Member Hovis was one of those who said that the council should not proceed on a "hit or miss" basis. We

quote from The Observer's account of the meeting:

"Mr. Hovis contended that the biggest reason for the city's high crime rate is laxity on the part of the court. He pointed out that the police department catches the criminals, but that punishment is not severe. He pointed out that a new judicial district may be formed. He suggested that we wait and see what happens in this respect. Lenient prosecution may be eliminated, he said. Mr. Hovis hastened to explain that his remarks were not a reflection of the ability of the present prosecutor."

Just what did he mean. He had just said that a new judicial district might be formed, and such is the outlook, indeed. Mecklenburg will, more than likely, be a judicial district to itself, and will have a new prosecutor. What did Mr. Hovis mean by saying that "lenient prosecution" may be eliminated?

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
February 19, 1941

COLORED COPS.—Advocates of Negro policemen for certain Negro sections of Charlotte are encouraged over the concession which will permit Negroes to take Civil Service examinations given applicants for jobs on the police force. The Crusaders, Negro civic organization, is going to take charge of selecting the Negro men who will be permitted to stand the civil service exams. Henry Houston, president of the Crusaders, says that only high-type Negro citizens will be considered. The objective of the Crusaders is to have Negro policemen placed in the Brooklyn section, which perhaps has incubated more crime than any other area in the state. More than a dozen persons were killed at one intersection in Brooklyn last year—First and McDowell streets. A patrolman stationed at that intersection could have prevented some of those murders. This deplorable record of last year warrants the naming of Negro policemen, if only to patrol the vicinity of that intersection of death—First and McDowell streets.

NEGRO POLICEMEN

The city papers, which are very much disturbed about the reputation Charlotte has as a locality where murder thrives, suggest that the city employ at least some negro policemen to work in the negro sections where many crimes are committed. This paper would add its commendation to the suggestion.

It seems very clear that the law as administered in Charlotte is not going to break up the crime among negroes, the prevalence of which is said to be the cause of the low standing of Charlotte in the criminal records of the country. There is not going to be, for one thing, the required interest and diligence. It is rather futile to try to blame any particular one for this. Somewhere in the machinery of the law there is a lost motion which amounts to carelessness and neglect.

The remedy for this as for other things in a self governing community is an appeal to public sentiment. You can arouse a public sentiment among white people for the enforcement of law against white people and do considerable good and not much harm. White men run the courts and no white criminal ever shows up without enough friends to help him fight his own cause, and when he goes into court he knows he is going to be tried by his peers—at least so far as color goes.

But in arousing public sentiment for enforcement of law among negroes you have another situation. The white man's public sentiment does not reach to the dives where negro crime flourishes, at least it does not go there in the best way. It does not go there with the backing of the colored sentiment and there is a very good reason why it does not. That reason is that when the law goes in it does not go with that discrimination between individuals which it should have.

We have no way of knowing that this statement is true, so we will make it in the form of a question: Have not the law-abiding negroes as they work in their various religious and social organizations, and as individuals, been lead to feel that the administration of the law is the business of the white man and that he neither desires nor would welcome any suggestion or cooperation from the colored people? If this be true, it follows that the attitude of the colored people would be hands off, the law is the white man's let him take care of it. And the next step in the psychology of the negro would not only be natural, but almost inevitable. That conclusion is helped on by the careless and indiscriminate attitude of the law officials, namely, that crime among negroes is not a serious matter unless it affects a white person, and if it does effect a white person the law must not be too finicky. And that conclusion is, in the negro psychology, that the law is in fact not a friend to the negro and therefore not to be too much supported.

If these suppositions are true, clearly the remedy is to call in the support of the negroes who are good citizens and give them some share in the administration of the law among their own. The employment of policemen in certain districts may be the proper step in this direction. The matter might go as far as making up negro juries for the trial of negroes against negroes. Certainly some means must be found for soliciting the cooperation of the decent negroes in moving against crimes of the indecent. And to forward this idea there are other things that white public sentiment must do to prove to the colored public sentiment that its help is wanted and will be given a fair show.

Advocates Hiring of Negro Cops

Woods Morgan Is Seeking Post

By DICK YOUNG
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Formal announcement of his candidacy for the City Council in the forthcoming municipal campaign was made today by Woods Morgan, Negro, 808 E. Stonewall Street, head of the Woods Morgan Barber College at First and McDowell Streets.

Advocacy of the employment by the City of Negro policemen, in order to reduce and prevent crime among Charlotte Negro's was Morgan's only campaign issue as outlined in his announcement.

His entrance in the campaign as a Council candidate was the second for a Negro in the last six years. Bishop Dale, Negro insurance man and Legionnaire, ran for the Council six years ago but failed of election. There have not been any Negro members of the City's Governing Body in 30 or 40 years, the last being members of the old Board of Aldermen, who were then chosen on a ward basis.

ALL IN SECOND WARD

Morgan will be a candidate from Second Ward, largely composed of Negro residents in the Brooklyn section although there are many white residents within the confines of the voting precinct. So far four announcements for the Council have been made and strange enough all have come from residents of Second Ward. These include Frank (Jack) Hoover, a resident of E. Fourth Street, Joe Robinson, who lives in the first block of S. Myers Street, and M. R. Dunaway, 1035 E. Morehead Street, an employee of the Cadillac-Oldsmobile Co.

Morgan's announcement is as follows:

I hereby announce my candidacy for the City Council from the Second Ward in the approaching municipal primary and election.

I am interested in reduction and prevention of crime among Negroes of Charlotte and to that end advocate the employment

of Negro policemen where they are needed.

I believe I am qualified to serve on the City Council and was educated in the public schools of Bishopville, S. C., and at Benedict College, Columbia, S. C. I have been a resident of Charlotte since 1927 and have been engaged in business at First and McDowell Streets since 1929 and during that time have headed the Woods Morgan Barber College.

At the present time I do not commit myself on the questions of the Sunday blue laws and the liquor stores. I am advocating only one issue at the present—the employment of Negro policemen.

Interest in the primary and election, which will be held on April 28 and May 6, is beginning to increase and the climax may be expected this week when members of the incumbent Council hold a caucus at which time decisions will be made regarding re-election plans. Mayor Douglas announced that he would call the Councilmen together this week for an informal discussion.

The Mayor himself has not reached any decision as to whether he will run again and no indication has come from any Councilmen, except Councilman John L. Wilkinson who several weeks ago announced his intention of not seeking re-election. There has been some question as to whether several of the others, including Councilmen John S. Nance and L. R. Sides, will run again.

OTHER MOVEMENTS

In recent weeks there has been much talk about putting into the field a "for the good of Charlotte" ticket, to be composed of prominent business and professional men and backed by strong groups, including several organizations of women, who were so active in the election of William H. Bobbitt as Superior Court judge.

There have been some rumblings of political dissatisfaction regarding the present regime at the City Hall and some opposition may develop although as yet no announcements have come from any organized groups.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
June 19, 1941

Council Approves Employment Of Negroes To Police Force

Proposal Carries 7 to 3; Sunday Question Revived By Group Of Petitioners.

The policy of employing Negroes as special police officers was approved by the city council yesterday afternoon but the actual details of their employment were left to be worked out by the police-fire committee for submission to the council at a subsequent meeting, perhaps next Wednesday.

The vote on the proposal, offered as the recommendation of the police-fire committee, was seven to three in favor of employing Negroes. Opposing were Councilman Claude L. Albea, a member of the committee, and Councilmen W. N. Hovis and John S. Ward. Councilman A. Parks Little was absent.

The council's action came toward the close of a long session at which a number of routine business matters were considered and representatives of several delegations were heard.

Among those appearing before the council was Robert Lassiter, chairman of the Charlotte airport commission, who explained that he was appearing personally and not as a member of the commission to ask the council if the city of Charlotte would acquire title to property needed for the expansion of the Charlotte air base if the funds for its purchase should be raised by popular subscription.

Mayor E. McA. Currie, replying, declared that he was confident the council, "a Scotch council," he laughingly added, would be delighted to accept the land on behalf of the city for leasing to the air base in event it should be offered. Mr. Lassiter also inquired about a strip of land at the airport that had not been included in the property leased to the air base, he said, and he declared this property was wanted by the air base command. Members of the council, which took no official action on the proposal, said they saw no reason why this property should not be included in the lease. It was not ascertained exactly where the property was situated but some of the council members expressed the opinion that the land in question lay along the railway between it and the developed section of the airport property. Mr. Lassiter did not disclose during the meeting of the council or afterwards what the air base command wished to do with the property should the city include it in the lease.

The council, upon motion of Councilman Ward, with Councilman Albea seconding the proposal, unanimously gave its indorsement to the movement to name the air base for Lieut. James J. Sykes, only Charlotte aviator who lost his life in the World war.

The council upon motion of Councilman Charles B. Ross, elected J. M. McCorkle to continue in the office of city accountant. Mr. Ross explained that Mr. McCorkle was busily engaged in preliminary work on the budget and suggested that his election should be recorded at once.

SUNDAY QUESTION.

The first delegation to appear before the council included representatives of the Charlotte Rescue mission, with Guy M. Beaty as spokesman, and including J. K. Booker and W. B. Reid, who offered a two-page mimeographed protest against the council's action in permitting Sunday baseball and motion pictures. They termed the council's action "a forward and serious step in the destruction of an old generally considered sacred standard under which this country and this community have grown and prospered." They expressed the belief that the "legalizing of commercialized sports and entertainments is but the opening wedge to a general 'open Sabbath.'" The paper read to the council urged "that all businesses not classed by you as truly necessary be treated alike and be ordered closed on Sabbath day." Action of the council in opening Sunday to commercialized sports and theaters, said the document, "we consider one of the most far reaching injurious effects of this recent action in the future welfare of the city." It called attention to the fact that the only avowed "open Sunday" candidate in the recent campaign for the council received less than "18 per cent of the vote polled by Mr. Albea, who led the ticket and who has voted consistently and is known throughout this community as standing for a closed Sunday." The speakers urged the council to reconsider its action, reinstate the former statute, and "continue it in effect until the people of this community may have an opportunity by an official referendum and vote to declare their convictions and wishes in this important issue."

Dr. John E. S. Davidson, appearing before the council to urge that the governing body give its attention to the enforcement of the sanitary laws, declared the present superintendent of that department "is absolutely ignorant of the sanitary laws." Dr. Davidson declared the department did not have enough trucks to haul off the city's garbage, said the streets were not

properly cleaned, declared that the sanitary laws are not enforced in places where soda fountains are operated, and charged that although "the health department has a pretty good set-up if enforced," venereal disease in Charlotte is on the increase even though with the aid available from the Reynolds foundation "it should be absolutely eliminated in this city and community."

PIN-BOARDS ILLEGAL.

Mayor Currie read a letter from City Attorney Charles W. Tillett informing the council that the operation of pin-boards has been illegal since June 1. On June 9 an order was served on Chief Harry M. Joyner, Chief Stanhope Lineberry of the county police and Sheriff Mack Riley restraining them from interfering with the operation of these machines and a hearing on the order was set for June 28 before Judge William H. Bobbitt. Mr. Tillett's letter said he was confident Judge Bobbitt would hold that the new law forbids operation of the machines. He said he had suggested to Chief Joyner that he begin assembling information on pin-board operators in the city for future use against them, but added that he had suggested that this be deferred until June 20 to give all operators an opportunity to rid themselves of these machines. The attorney inclosed a suggested ordinance, which the council unanimously adopted, providing for the refunding of one-twelfth of the cost of the license paid for the operation of the machines and specifying under what conditions the refund should be given.

A delegation of Negroes, headed by Dr. J. S. Nathaniel Tross, local Negro leader, submitted to the council a list of cities in which Negro police officers have been used successfully, he said, including cities in Tennessee, Texas, Oklahoma and Florida.

SEEKS SUBSIDY.

A petition from a local Negro newspaper which is sponsoring a publicity drive against crime and is seeking a subsidy from the city was referred to the police-fire committee for consideration. During last year, the spokesman of this campaign told the council, Charlotte had 47 murders, 98 robberies, 72 burglaries, 237 cases of grand larceny, 1,766 cases of petty larceny and 310 cases of automobile theft.

In opposing the policy of employing special Negro officers, Councilman Hovis read from the city charter to support his contention that if these Negroes are employed in that capacity it will be necessary to designate each section and all premises upon which they could serve. He said he felt that the

council in adopting such a policy would in reality be acting "as give it a trial in the hope it might be an accessory in a crime. I have aid in decreasing crime among the been against this all along. If this Negroes is passed I have been told that Mr. Hovis had said that other certain citizens will contest the pay-sections of the city would want ment of the salaries of these men." more police officers and Council Chairman Beasley of the commit-J. A. Baker interposed to say that tee declared the employment of he agreed that more should be Negroes was an experiment that might "work and again might not." He said the committee, with Mr.

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51-1941

Charlotte N. C. Observer
January 15, 1941Charlotte N. C. Observer
January 11, 1941Charlotte N. C. Observer
February 2, 1941

NORTH CAROLINA

Why Not Negro Policemen?

To The Observer:

I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the effort which is being put forth by the Crusaders in their attempt to diminish crime in Charlotte. We view with alarm the terrifically high rate of crime among Negroes in Charlotte. The problem of decreasing crime among Negroes in Charlotte is a stupendous one, and cannot be solved by a few far sighted, patriotic citizens. It is a problem which, if solved, will enlist the co-operation and constructive interest of not only every intelligent Negro, but public spirited white persons as well. There must be co-operation on the part of the governing body of Charlotte.

Crime among Negroes in Charlotte is a result of natural causes. In order that crime may be prevented the causes which lie back of these crimes MUST be alleviated. Since crime concerns all of us, then these causes concern us all. Charlotte today possesses an unprecedented crime rate. There is no other city in America where Negroes commit so many crimes. There is no other city to our knowledge of Charlotte's size where Negroes have fewer opportunities. These two factors go along together. They will always be found together—crime and lack of opportunity. Lack of opportunity is the mother of crime.

The editor of The Charlotte Observer tosses the challenge into the laps of the Negro leaders of Charlotte. He gives to it his blessing by his stirring article on his editorial page, December 17. One step in this direction is the appointment of Negro officers of the law. Are we willing to fight for Negro police? Let the Negro Citizen's league which represents the Negro interest in Charlotte take up the fight. It is a patriotic cause and many fair-minded citizens are behind it. We noted more recently that a committee of intelligent, public spirited Negroes have interviewed the city council in the interest of better law enforcement in Charlotte among Negroes. Their cause is a just one, and their plea deserves hearing. Noting the slowness on the part of our city council to take up matter of appointing Negro policemen leads one to ask the question as to whether the city council is afraid that it may be a step out of harmony with the racial discrimination which is so obviously prevalent in Charlotte or could it be that they are indifferent the whole matter of crime among Negroes.

C. E. BOULWARE

**NEGRO POLICE
PLEA REFUSED**

Officials to Tell Crusaders
Funds Not Available For
Plan to Cut Crime.

It will be financially impossible to increase the personnel of the Charlotte police department during the present fiscal year, city officials indicated yesterday.

That unquestionably will be the answer that will be given members of the Community Crusaders, a Negro organization dedicated to the task of reducing crime in the Negro quarters of the city, who have petitioned the city council for Negro patrolmen.

City Manager James W. Armstrong, Police Chief Harry M. Joyner, and three police captains will meet soon, probably Monday, with a committee from the Crusaders, to discuss measures that can be taken to curb the alarming number of killings and cuttings and shooting scrapes.

The Negroes have insisted that Negro men should be employed and trained in police work and then detailed to sections where crime is rampant. They have given facts and figures to back their argument along with the claim that Negro patrolmen are used in several southern cities with marked success.

However, an investigation yesterday revealed that limited finances will keep the city government from employing additional officers this year.

A number of suggestions have been advanced for reducing the city's high crime rate. These suggestions will be discussed with the Crusaders, it was indicated.

**Editor Issues Call
For Negro Officers**

Buford F. Gordon, Editorial Chief of A.M.E. Zion Church
School Literature, Expresses Opinion Colored Police Due Negroes of Charlotte.

A discussion of the question of whether or not the city of Charlotte should employ Negro policemen in its campaign to reduce crime, particularly among the Negro population, is contained in an article submitted for publication yesterday by Buford F. Gordon, editor of Church School Literature of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion church.

The question has been under consideration for the last several weeks by the city council and much general interest has been evidenced in it. No action upon the matter has been taken by the council but it is still before that body for determination.

"As a Negro citizen, I have appreciated the interest that your paper has shown in this public venture," says Editor Gordon in an appended note, "and I trust that some good will result in the betterment of the city as a whole. For our city cannot be any better than its most neglected group."

The article follows:

"I was at the city council meeting when the final hearing was given to the very competent committee representing the Crusaders in their plea for the employment of Negro policemen as a means of curbing crime among Negroes. The council gave a respectful and sympathetic hearing to the Negro group, devoting upwards of two hours to this problem. Speaking as a citizen I believe that, for the best interest of the City of Charlotte and our Democratic form of government, we should have Negro policemen, not only in Negro sections, but as traffic officers, guarding the life of our citizens, and especially our school children.

CRIME.

The crime wave in Charlotte is and has been on the increase for many years. Any careful sociological survey of the crime infested areas will reveal the causes for this upward swing in the crime wave. As casual observers we know that dins, dives, poorly lighted areas, poor housing conditions, blind tigers, low wage scales, common law marital relations, lack of adequate police protection, and laxity in the prosecution of criminals who commit crimes against the less fortunate minority groups con-

tribute toward the crime among Negroes, and that the causes must be removed before we can expect any reasonable decrease in crime.

Any one who has carefully studied crime realizes that it is not racial, but that it grows out of conditions that are conducive to it, slightly aided and nurtured by degenerates, morons, and the mentally weak. All races possess such persons in small numbers. Institutions of correction should be provided for those who are thus mentally sick. The type of jails and houses of detention that we have in our community are not designed as institutions of correction for criminals, especially those that are provided for the Negroes. The Negro girls who have "made a mistake" in our community are often left to drift, and the result is that they become criminals of some sort. The Negro boys who are first and second offenders, and who rapidly become our worst criminals, do not have adequate care and protection. If we are to reduce crime, these first and second minor offenders must receive corrective treatment and be given an opportunity to live the abundant life as citizens in our community. We need institutions of correction for our youth, institutions for our expectant young mothers who have been victims of degenerate seductionists.

It is unfair to the Negro race to have him painted so black to the world because of the crime wave that now grips Charlotte, when the Negro has not had a fair chance in this city. It is generally reported that many of the numbers rackets, blind tigers, and other places of ill-fame, operating in Negro communities, are financed and backed by citizens of other races. It is also reported that many of these damnable places are frequented and patronized by peoples of other races. The landlords who own most of the property where crime is so gross

and rampant are not Negroes. The shacks and congested substandard tenement houses are owned by those of other races, and yet the Negro is the merciless victim—the criminal of circumstances.

The Negro feels that Negro policemen will help in the solution of crime among Negroes in our most congested areas. But Negro policemen will not solve the problem, and it is unfair to place such responsibility on any kind of peace officer. When we get our Negro policemen, and I feel certain that we will, we need not expect any magic solution of the crime in Charlotte. Some other things must happen concurrently — the things mentioned above. There are other reasons why I feel that we should have Negro policemen:

Americanism: If there were no crime among Negroes, I still feel that we should have Negro policemen as peace officers, as protectors against the probable invader of our sacred rights, and as representatives of our group in this community, because we are dealt with, as a minority group, and are denied many advantages that citizens deserve in a democracy. We have many Negroes who are tax payers and who help pay for police protection as citizens, and are not represented in the administrative and executive affairs of that body that governs them. They have a right, as members of the City of Charlotte, and as members of a race that is, possibly, one-third of the population of the City, to be given representation in some branches of the body that governs them, other than what they are able to secure by their vote, but what is due them through a reasonable equity in our democracy. Negroes need to be on the pay roll of the City of Charlotte in some sort of a decent proportion—Two Negro policemen will be desirable, but not equitable.

"TALK AMERICANISM."

Sometime ago I clipped a statement from The Charlotte Observer, and in the Periodical I edit I had this to say, which I now quote to conclude my statement:

"The Charlotte Observer gave a whole page to Americanism. The leading businessmen of the city sponsored this program, and they are to be highly commended for their loyalty. Their slogan is, 'DO MORE THAN THINK IT . . . TALK AMERICANISM.' This is a step forward, and we suggest that we go one step further—'Act Americanism.' The display article further says:

"WHERE ELSE BUT IN AMERICA CAN THESE BE YOURS?"

"EQUALITY for Every Person . . . For Every Race . . . Every Creed.

"GUARANTEED Security of Person and Property.

"INDIVIDUAL Freedom and Full

Opportunity . . . Limited Only By Your Own Ability and Energy.
"THE RIGHT To Help Choose Your Own Government.
"FREE Speech . . . A Free Press . . . Freedom of Assembly . . . and Trial By Jury.
"Basically That is AMERICA.
"Love It . . . Or Leave It!"

NEGRO POLICE MATTER COMES BEFORE COUNCIL

But No Action Is Taken On
This Important Question.

HANDLES MANY MATTERS

Committee Is Named to De-
vise Methods For Reducing
Automobile Accidents.

The Charlotte city council spent the busiest three hours in several months yesterday when called upon to handle nine important matters that affect the welfare of the community.

1.—The council agreed to petition the Legislature to pass a bill authorizing an election on the question of issuing bonds for the construction of a modern uptown auditorium.

2.—Listened to a large Negro delegation that demanded Negro policemen in the Brooklyn section. Several councilmen advanced suggestions that would clear the way for the employment of the additional officers, but when they were put to a vote they failed to pass. The matter was left "in the air."

3.—Received a communication from Mrs. V. K. Hart, chairman of the Council of Social Agencies, urging the council not to attempt to destroy the commission plan for handling parks and playgrounds. No action was taken.

4.—The mayor appointed a special committee composed of City Manager James W. Armstrong, Police Chief Harry Joyner, Councilmen H. H. Baxter, John Ward and Parks Little, and representatives of Charlotte's two newspapers, Tom Watkins of The Observer and Dick Young of The News, to devise methods for reducing the "alarming number of automobile accidents and fatalities."

5.—Made preparations for formulating policies regarding fire protection and possible installation of fire hydrants in highly developed residential sections just outside the city limits.

6.—Received for consideration a bill that will be introduced in the Legislature asking that members of the civil service commission be appointed by the resident judge rather than the council.

7.—In order to avoid accidents at the airport where the army air base is being established the city manager, in conjunction with the airport commission, will formulate regulations to keep automobiles and trucks away from the runways. A plane of the Eastern Air Lines almost struck a truck recently.

8.—Cleared up legal entanglements at Bryant park, by acquiring five acres of land owned by Mrs. Estelle Miller and Mrs. Elizabeth H. Hunter.

9.—Completed arrangements for taking over Oaklawn cemetery.

At the request of the Chamber of Commerce the council approved the idea of a public vote on the suggestion of issuing bonds to build a large auditorium. The council made it clear that their indorsement of the proposal did not necessarily mean that the city council officially approved the idea of a bond issue. The council simply passed on to the Legislature the request that the citizens of Charlotte be allowed to decide the matter.

Saturday evening members of the council will meet with members of the C. of C. auditorium committee and the members of the Mecklenburg delegation to the General Assembly—Senator Joe Blythe and Representatives James B. Vogler, Ed Tonissen, H. I. McDougle. Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick is chairman of the auditorium committee.

At that time, no doubt, the amount of the bond issue, size of the auditorium, and other pertinent questions will be discussed. The conference will be held at the Hotel Charlotte at 6:30 o'clock.

The second major problem to confront the council at their mid-weekly session yesterday afternoon concerned the proposal to employ Negro policemen.

The Negroes, when the mayor explained that finances would not permit expansion of the police department during the present fiscal year, asked for permission to pay the salaries of two Negro officers for a period of six months "as an experiment" to determine if the presence of Negro officers in the Brooklyn community would not materially reduce crime there.

The city attorney was then asked if it was legal for citizens of the community to pay the salaries of city employed. The attorney said

he was not prepared to make such an off-hand ruling.

The Negroes insisted that Negro policemen were necessary and wanted to know if there is a law that prevents Negroes from taking the civil service examinations.

They were informed that Negroes can take the examinations, but that appointments to the police department are given those who stand highest on the eligibility. The Negroes indicated that they will have representatives ready, probably from Johnson C. Smith university, to take the next examination.

Councilman H. H. Baxter suggested that two officers, after proper examination, to be paid by Negro citizens, be allowed to patrol the Brooklyn section. The motion was voted down.

Councilman L. R. Sides pointed out that because of the killings in the Brooklyn area that an emergency exists. Therefore, he said, the mayor has the right to appoint special policemen, without the necessity of civil service examination, to handle the situation.

Mr. Baxter backed this plan, but Councilman W. N. Hovis objected on the grounds that the council should not proceed "on a hit-or-miss basis." Mr. Hovis contended that the biggest reason for the city's high crime rate is laxity on the part of the court. He pointed out that the police department catches the criminals, but that punishment is not severe. He pointed out that a new judicial district may be formed. He suggested that "we wait and see" what happens in this respect. Lenient prosecution may be eliminated, he said. Mr. Hovis hastened to explain that his remarks were not a reflection of the ability of the present prosecutor.

The council, after considerable discussion by councilmen and members of the Crusaders, a Negro organization dedicated to the reduction of crime among members of their race, suggested that the problem of employing the policemen be postponed until next budget making time.

Mrs. V. K. Hart, in her communication to the mayor, said the Council of Social Agencies, because of its interest in the development of public recreation, sponsored the formation of a small citizen's committee to study the recent proposal to abolish the parks and recreation commission.

"On the basis of its limited study," Mrs. Hart said, "the committee urges the retention of the present act creating the parks and recreation commission. It is clear that the commission plan has demonstrated its value in a great majority of American cities where successful public recreation programs are now in operations."

Inadequate funds for the maintenance of parks and playgrounds has created an emergency, she said.

"In order to meet this emergency without destroying the commission plan which, adequately financed, would be preferred to any other, we suggest that the next city council name a commission from its own personnel. This would integrate the administration of parks and recreation with the administration of the regular departments of the city government. It would make such interdepartmental co-operation possible as would contribute to early improvements in the parks and recreation situation."

(Ed's note: Members of the council are prevented from holding dual positions. They could not act as councilmen and commissioners at the same time.)

Mrs. Hart went on to say that by "retaining the act in its present form, a return to the appointment of a commission of private citizens would be permitted as soon as the people provide adequate funds for the commission's purposes."

Several weeks ago the council tentatively agreed to ask the Legislature to abolish the parks and recreation commission. The proposed bill, it was stated, has not yet gone to Raleigh.

Councilman Baxter informed the council that Charlotte led the State last year in the number of deaths from automobile accidents. He contended that all automobile drivers in the city should be re-examined to determine if they are qualified to drive. He suggested actual road tests, mental examinations, tests for color blindness. Persons who are just reaching age also would be given rigid examinations.

The mayor appointed a special committee that will meet Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the city hall to go into the matter thoroughly. The proposal may be advanced for the employment of a traffic expert to make a survey of the city and determine which streets should be for one-way traffic, where lights should be installed, and what changes should be made to improve generally traffic conditions.

Likewise it has been suggested that a traffic bureau be established on a permanent basis.

Representatives of labor with Jack Moore, acting as spokesman told the council of a bill that has been prepared for submission to the Legislature calling for the appointment of civil service commissioners by the resident judge. (At present they are appointed by the council.)

This state-wide measure, sponsored by the firemen's union, would permit the appointment of the police chief from outside the ranks.

The fire chief, however, would have to come from the department.

The matter was received by the council as information. Often this method is followed by the council when they wish to pigeonhole a matter.

The Mayor called attention to the council that recently an E. A. L. airplane narrowly avoided hitting a truck that was using a portion of one of the main runways. Many trucks are now in operation at the air base and regulations are necessary to prevent serious accidents.

The city manager was instructed to meet with the airport commission and formulate definite policies to control the operation of the Douglas airport.

An agreement was reached, it was announced, whereby Mrs. Estelle R. Miller and Mrs. Elizabeth Hunter will pay the city government about \$10,000 on outstanding street assessments that have accumulated on property they own at Bryant property. The city agreed to waive interest in return for five acres of property.

Another matter to occupy the attention of the council was the question of fire protection in the highly developed residential areas just outside the city limits. Numerous requests have been received for the installation of fire hydrants. The city owns the water mains in most of these sections. Also, it was pointed out these areas will probably be taken into the city in the near future.

Owners of Oaklawn cemetery were notified to vacate so that the city can take over the cemetery. The city acquired most of the property sometime ago and plan to develop this property, along with other property owned by the city on Statesville road, into a large municipal cemetery. Elmwood cemetery is practically filled.

The Sunday issue did not come up at yesterday's council meeting. There are indications that the city government may petition the Legislature for permission to hold an election to settle this controversial issue.

FIGHT FOR RACE COPS LOOKS GOOD

JAN 25 1941

CHARLOTTE, N. C. Jan. 23—Though early in the week it appeared certain that the petition of the Crusaders, an organization dedicated to the reducing of crime in the colored residential and business sections of the city, urging the City Council to employ Negro policemen to patrol and maintain order in those sections, would be denied, due to reported financial inability to increase Police Department funds during the present fiscal year—at week's end hope of favorable action appeared to have revived and gained support.

At that time, the Council had appointed a special committee to meet with representatives of The Crusaders to discuss further the proposal for employment of Negro police officers for the purposes outlined in the Crusaders' petition. It is understood the Council's action was prompted by the development of a widespread sentiment among citizens of Charlotte generally, for the granting of the petition.

Charlotte, N. C. News
May 27, 1941

Negro Cops Considered

Council Group Seeks Additional Facts

The question of the employment of special Negro police officers in the Negro sections of the city was still being investigated today, following a two-hour session of the police-fire committee of the City Council last night.

Councilman C. C. Beasley, chairman of the Council committee, told THE NEWS today that "additional facts" will be gathered today and he hoped to have a report to present to the City Council at its weekly session tomorrow.

This morning, James W. Armstrong, city manager, Harry M. Joyner, chief of police and Frank N.

Littlejohn, chief of detectives, met briefly in the City Manager's office for discussion of a written report that is to be filed with Mayor Currie and the City Council.

Mr. Armstrong said that the question of procedure in appointment of special officers in case of an emergency was discussed for inclusion in the written report.

The police-fire committee, consisting of Mr. Beasley, A. Z. Price, Claude L. Albee, and Lester W. Slye, met last night at the City Hall to consider the request of a delegation of Negro leaders for employment of two Negro policemen for patrol in the Negro quarter and of two Negro truant officers for work among Negro juveniles.

The request was referred to the police-fire committee at last week's Council session. Mayor Currie asked that a report be submitted as soon as possible.

NO AUTHORITY

Mr. Beasley pointed out today that the Council has no legal authority over the appointment of any police officers, as this must come through the regular channels of the Civil Service Commission, which has its eligibility lists based on examinations.

There are no Negroes on this eligibility list and if any are to be appointed, they will have to be designated as "special officers," employed by the City Council for an emergency. There is legal authority for this move.

Mr. Beasley said that no definite decision was reached by the committee last night but that "additional facts" will be gathered and probably presented to the Council tomorrow.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
June 23, 1941

INDORSE NEGRO POLICE PLANS

Community Crusaders Approve Proposal and Pledge Co-operation to City.

Approximately 300 leaders of Charlotte's Negro citizenship met yesterday afternoon at the Grace A. M. E. Zion church and voted unanimously their indorsement of the plan of the city council to name two special Negro officers to police Negro sections of the city.

The group pledged itself to co-operate with the city council and the police department in giving aid

to the Negro police officers to make the experiment successful.

It was pointed out that the young teen-age Negro is the biggest problem in juvenile delinquency. Plans for eliminating as much as possible this problem were discussed.

Discussion also was held on ways and means for the establishing of a rescue mission for Negroes. J. K. Booker of the Charlotte Rescue mission spoke briefly and pledged moral and financial support to such a project.

The group included representatives from all civic groups of the Negro citizenship. Dr. J. S. N. Tross presented a report of the committee appointed by the Community Crusaders to keep an account of the city council's plan for Negro police officers. It was explained that the officers would not be appointed until several technical matters have been ironed out.

Henry Houston, president of the Community Crusaders, an organization of 5,000 Negroes of Charlotte, presided.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
June 22, 1941

NEGRO LEADERS INDORSE PLAN OF COUNCILMEN

Call Mass Meeting Today to Urge Co-operation.

REPUDIATE PROTEST MOVE

Civic-Minded Leaders Heartily Approve Idea of Two Special Officers.

Leaders of Charlotte's civic-minded Negro citizenship last night gave their enthusiastic indorsement to the plan of the city council to name two special Negro officers to police Negro sections of the city and called a mass meeting for this afternoon to give the citizenship an opportunity to express its

approval.

At the same time a communication addressed to Mayor Currie and the city council and signed "Citizens' Committee, Annie Golden, chairman" was denounced as not being expressive of the views of the Negroes of Charlotte.

The meeting this afternoon will begin at 5 o'clock and will be held at Grace A. M. E. Zion church, Henry Houston, president of the Community Crusaders, an organization of 5,000 Negroes of Charlotte and editor of The Charlotte Post, announced last night.

WANT BIG ATTENDANCE

"We are anxious to have a great crowd at this mass meeting," Editor Houston said. "We will have the report by the committee on Negro police and we will urge everybody to give his co-operation to the city council and the police department in giving aid to the Negro police officers who are to be appointed for the purpose of making this experiment successful. This plan, as approved by the city council, has been indorsed by the Community Crusaders, with 5,000 members, and the Ministerial Alliance, an interdenominational organization.

"We know nothing of this announced purpose of Woods Morgan to bring a big delegation to the city hall for the session of the council next week to protest against the plan. We certainly will have nothing to do with this movement, if there is any movement, which we doubt. We are certainly not protesting against the plan to name two special Negro police officers. Instead, we are standing right squarely behind it. In fact, we might say it is our plan. We have been working on it for years and we realize, as does the council, that it will be an experiment that should be tried out, and we want to help in every way we can to make it work. We are working with the council to help them find the right sort of men for the two jobs, and we want the council to know that we indorse their proposal, are enthusiastically backing it, and are anxious to help every way we can to make successful."

GOLDEN DENIES LETTER

The Charlotte Negro leader said Annie Golden was not affiliated with his organization, nor was Woods Morgan. Annie Golden, he recalled, ran for the city council several years ago on the Communist ticket and Woods Morgan offered for the council in the recent primary but withdrew before the ballots were printed.

Yesterday from the home of Annie Golden at 2331 Tate street it was reported that she was ill and could not talk over the telephone, but it was announced for her that she did not write the letter and did not sign it although

she had received a copy of the communication. It had been prepared by a committee, she was reported to have said, of which Woods Morgan was a member.

In this letter it was announced that "a delegation of Negro citizens will meet with the city council next Wednesday to protest the plans voted upon by the council recently for the employment of Negro policemen" and in a "synopsis" of the protest declared among other things that the peace officer proposal of the council would result in the accomplishment of nothing by the officers "above the capacity of a police pimp."

At the mass meeting this afternoon, said Editor Houston, J. K. Booker of the Charlotte Rescue mission will speak. Plans for the annual "Go-to-Sunday School Sunday" campaign will also be revealed. At the end of a five-week Sunday school campaign an outing will be given by the Community Crusaders for the Sunday school children.

Members of the Crusaders' police committee, which is working with the council on its program, are Henry Houston, chairman, Thad L. Tate, Dr. J. N. Nathaniel Tross and Mrs. H. L. McCreary.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
June 18, 1941

COUNCIL GROUP TO RECOMMEND TRIAL OF PLAN

Indications Are Two Special Officers to Be Allowed.

ROUTINE MATTERS SLATED

Councilmen Look On Proposal as Experiment to Curb Crime In Negro Areas.

Two Negro special officers to serve in Negro sections of the city under the direction of Chief of Police Harry M. Joyner will be authorized at this afternoon's session of the city council, members

of the council forecast yesterday afternoon.

The council, meeting in regular weekly session, will have the recommendation of its police-fire committee placed before it, Chairman C. C. Beasley of that committee reported. The committee was ready to report last Wednesday but the report had not been mailed out to members of the council and action was deferred for one week. It was thought yesterday that no effort would be made today to delay consideration.

RECOMMENDED BY COMMITTEE

The committee's report recommends the appointment by the council, after thorough consideration has been given to persons recommended, of two Negro men to serve under the chief of police in areas set out by him and for a period of one year. The men will not be under the regulations of the civil service commission but will be special men appointed by the council and assigned to specific duties for a specified period.

Employment of the Negro men, it was pointed out by members of the committee, will be frankly an experiment but they are confident that the experiment will prove successful if it is given a fair trial and if the Negro citizens of the city are determined to make it successful. Negro citizens and organizations have appeared time after time before the former council and upon several occasions before the present council to urge the appointment of Negro police officers to serve in Negro sections.

ROUTINE MEETING SOON.

Only matters of a routine nature face the council, with the exception of this report of the police-fire committee, members of that body said yesterday. City Manager James W. Armstrong has only a brief report to offer and it consists entirely of routine business recommendations.

The city manager, with City Accountant J. M. McCorkle, and heads of various departments aiding from time to time, has been busy drawing up a budget schedule for the consideration of the council, but the budget will not be in shape today for the council to set a tentative tax rate, it was announced yesterday. A tentative rate, however, can likely be set at the meeting next week. The final rate must be set by the last Monday in July—July 28—it was pointed out.

If the council is to act upon the appointment of a city manager or make other appointments within its powers there was no indication yesterday that such plans were under consideration.

Charlotte, N. C. News
June 11, 1941

Committee Supports Move For Negro Cops

Reads Recommendation Before Council At Session; Refunding Issue To Be Aired

Report of the Police-Fire Committee recommending the employment of Negro "peace officers," was scheduled to be presented to the City Council at its weekly session today.

Authorization for refunding of \$65,000 old auditorium bonds was another important item on the Council's agenda for the afternoon.

At last Wednesday's session, Councilman C. C. Beasley, chairman of the Police-Fire Committee, was ready to present the report on the employment of Negro police officers but it was deferred a week because of the crowded session.

UNUSUAL PROCEDURE

The unusual procedure in refunding a bond issue (this has not been done by the City of Charlotte for years and years) becomes necessary, James W. Armstrong, City Manager, explained, because the \$65,000 was not included in the retirement plan evolved in 1935. The City at that time held notes of \$75,000 against the Henderson Investment Co., one of the purchasers of the auditorium property at Fifth and College Streets, and the indebtedness was to be retired when these notes became due. In the meantime, however, it was necessary for the City to foreclose on the mortgage and the property was repossessed. Since then, the City has been unable to sell it for the amount of the notes.

Mr. Armstrong said that bond dealers have informed him that his refunding issue will not reflect upon the City's credit, under the circumstances. This opinion is also shared, he said, by J. E. Easterling, secretary of the Local Government Commission.

Tucked away toward the back of the City Manager's five-page report is a request for the changing of the name of Lindbergh Drive to Avon Avenue. The matter has been handled by the Engineering Department and there is no conflict on the suggested new name. There was no mention for the reason of the change.

The Council's operations committee, of which Councilman Lester W. Slye, was ready to report on the committee's recommendation not to install fire hydrants outside the city limits. The committee met yesterday and agreed not to change the policy in regard to outside fire protection. The request for hydrants came from the Charlotte Country Club district.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
June 25, 1941

Negro Police Issue Set For Settlement

City Council Seen Ready to Establish Plan For Using Two Colored Officers to Patrol Charlotte's Darktown at Today's Session; Traffic Rules Up.

Passage by the city council of a resolution setting up a plan for the employment and direction of the activities of two Negro police officers to patrol Negro sections of the city is expected at the weekly meeting this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Last night Chairman C. C. Beasley of the council's police-fire committee said he was expecting City Attorney C. W. Tillett to have the resolution in proper legal form for passage by the council this afternoon.

Mr. Beasley said his committee had been assured by leading Negroes of the city that the Negro population was eager to see the plan given a trial and that the letter addressed to the committee last week by a "Citizens' Committee," of which Annie Golden was listed as the chairman, protesting against establishment of the proposed plan and asking that the Negro policemen be appointed through regular channels and placed under civil service regulations did not represent the views of these Negro civic leaders.

NEGROES HAIL PLAN.

A mass meeting of Negro citizens under the auspices of the Community Crusaders, held Sunday afternoon at Grace A. M. E. Zion church, gave unanimous indorsement to the committee's plan and pledged co-operation with efforts of the committee and the other council members to make such a plan successful.

The plan, which was indorsed in principle by the council at last week's session, provides for the naming of two Negro men to police certain specified Negro sections of the city and set up the territories in which they shall work and prescribes in detail their manner of appointment, their authority, and their duties.

The council today will not have the final 1941-1942 fiscal year's budget before it for adoption. It has already set the tentative tax rate, however, at \$1.48 and it has until Monday, July 28, to adopt the budget.

ROSS HEADS FINANCES.

Members of the finance committee, of which Councilmen Charles B. Ross is chairman, along with City Manager James W. Armstrong and City Accountant J. M. McCorkle, have been busy considering in detail the proposed budget. Yesterday Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Mc-

Corkle, Mr. Ross and Councilman A. Parks Little, a member of the finance committee, were continuing their consideration of budget figures.

Nor was it expected last night that the council at today's session would proceed to complete its task of naming city officials. This will hardly be done, one councilman suggested, before the budget is completed. This councilman thought that the council, when it does proceed to elect the officials, would first name the city manager and would continue with lesser appointments. No persons other than those now serving in these offices, it was said by this member of the council, have been urged for appointment.

Still to be named are the city manager, the city collector of revenue, the treasurer, the city clerk, the chief of police and the chief of the fire department. The council has already elected the recorder, recorder pro tem, and solicitor of the recorder's court, and the city accountant. The accountant was elected, it was pointed out, because the council held that the law provided that his name should appear on the budget presented to the council for adoption.

ROUTINE MATTERS ON TAP.

The other city hall appointments are made by the city manager and holders of these positions are responsible to him.

The city manager's recommendations this afternoon will embrace only routine business matters of little public interest, Mr. Armstrong said yesterday.

Councilman Beasley said last night his police-fire committee would submit today the traffic recommendations of Chief Harry M. Joyner of the police department for the council's official consideration. The committee would likely have also a number of other traffic recommendations to give to the council for its study, he added.

Columbia, S. C. State
January 29, 1941

Council Hears Request for Negro Policeman

City council took under consideration yesterday a proposal from the Inter-denominational Ministers union that three Negro police officers be added to the force here, to serve in exclusively Negro sections of Columbia.

A committee of the union appeared before council and said that they felt that more effective control of crime here would be possible if Negro police officers were assigned to duty among members of the race.

They said that intelligent white and Negro citizens here were working side by side to lift the standards of both races and that fine examples of the co-operation were seen in the fields of education, social service, national defense and religion.

In its discussion of the matter, Councilman Gary Paschal said that the white and the Negro races were here and ought to live together in harmony and peace and the matter ought to be given fair consideration.

Councilman Fred D. Marshall said he felt the situation could be controlled by white police officers and that he would not vote to add a Negro officer. He added later, however, that consideration should be shown but that he felt that addition of Negro officers might do more harm than good.

Councilman W. P. Eleazer said that he agreed with Mr. Marshall.

On motion of Councilman Marshall and seconded by Councilman Colin S. Monteith, Jr., the petition was received as information and for future consideration.

Petitioners yesterday included E. A. Adams, chairman; L. C. Jenkins, secretary; J. P. Reeder, J. C. Colclough, union president; I. W. Janerette, M. McCollum, union secretary, and S. S. Youngblood.

The areas for which the Negro police officers were requested were in Waverley, Wards 1 and 3.

Columbia, S. C. Record
January 28, 1941

Council Hears Petitions For Negro Officers

Ministers Ask For Them To Patrol Certain Sections But Action Delayed

Columbia's city council was requested today to elect three or four Negro policemen to patrol the Negro sections in the city.

This request came from the Negro ministerial organization in a petition submitted to the council. A committee also appeared at the council meeting to support the petition.

City council received the request as information after Councilman Fred D. Marshall opposed electing Negro policemen.

Councilman Gary Paschal explained, however, that he thought the council should give the request consideration and suggested that Mayor L. B. Owens appoint a committee to confer with the ministers and report to council.

"I think the situation can be controlled by white policemen," Mr. Marshall said. "I would not vote to put on a Negro policeman as long as we have as many applications from white men as we have at present."

Councilman W. P. Eleazer agreed with Mr. Marshall and Councilman Colin S. Monteith, Jr., and Mayor Owens did not express themselves.

The ministers pointed out that several sections in the city occupied by Negroes need law enforcement officers because of the many crimes that are being committed in these sections.

The petition pointed out that the ministers understood that the council planned to add policemen to the force and asked that three or four Negroes be elected to patrol the Negro areas.

City council granted D. M. Winter permission to erect a six-family apartment at 1318 Pickens street and refused Robert Moorman permission to erect a filling station at the northeast corner of Saluda and Blossom streets.

Mr. Moorman was granted permission to build a garage apart-

ment on the west side of Henderson street, between Green and Devine and Mrs. A. W. Stevenson was given permission to build a garage apartment at 1822 Heyward street.

C. G. Shockley was given permission to build a galvanized warehouse on the 1200 block of Franklin street, and the council refused to rescind permission it had previously granted Mrs. Jane L. Callahan to convert a building at 2331 Wilmot avenue into an apartment building. I. H. Hollis was advised to advertise the proposed tenant

Greenville, S. C. Piedmont
January 30, 1941

Negro Cops For Columbia Asked

COLUMBIA, Jan. 29—City council took under consideration yesterday a proposal from the Inter-denominational Ministers union that three negro police officers be added to the force here to serve in exclusively Negro sections of Columbia.

A committee of the union appeared before council and said that they felt that more effective control of crime here would be possible if negro police officers were assigned to duty among members of the race.

They said that intelligent white and negro citizens here were working side by side to lift the standards of both races and that fine examples of the co-operation were seen in the fields of education, social service, national defense and religion.

In its discussion of the matter, Councilman Gray Paschal said that the white and the negro races were here and ought to live together in harmony and peace and the matter ought to be given fair consideration.

Columbia, S. C. Record
March 27, 1941

Negroes Cite 'Grievances'

Result of Meeting Given To Council; Policemen Of Race Asked

A list of grievances compiled at a mass meeting of Negro citizens last Sunday was presented to city council Wednesday by a group of leading Negro citizens.

Members of the group were J. C. McCollough, president of the Inter-denominational Ministerial union; A. J. Collins, the Civic Welfare League; Gurney E. Nelson, president of the local branch of National Association of College Women; J. W. Brunson, president of the local branch of the National Negro Business league, and E. A. Adams, president of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The petition pointed out that 40 per cent of the citizens of Columbia and Richland county are Negroes and that they are not mere wards of the state or city but "bonafide, free-born citizens who are entitled to the protection of the laws of this commonwealth and subject to punishment for the infraction thereof. It also declared the Negroes pay their full and proportionate share of the total taxes and that their consuming ability makes them an indispensable part of the economic set-up.

Talk About Pensions
Discrimination against Negroes

in the administration of old age pensions was charged with pensions continue without dreadful and em- cut off or reduced without notice, barrassing results."

The petition also declared the tion declared that sometimes whole Negroes were discriminated against families of white persons are placed in the matter of playgrounds and on the pension and welfare rolls recreational facilities, teachers' salaries, and provision of graduate while at the same time it is impossible to get a few eligible aged and blind Negroes qualified on the same rolls.

Negroes are also "inhumanly discriminated against in the matter of wages," the petition said, with the average wage for men being around \$6 weekly and for women about \$3.

"Investigation of one of two cases showed further study unnecessary since the appallingly low wage scale for Negroes is not only general but is also out of all proportion to that received by a white man for the same or similar work in the self-same job set-up or category . . . On these starvation wages Negroes must meet a single price for commodities and services. They pay as much for food, clothing and other commodities and for taxes as the most well-to-do white man in the city or county."

For Negro Policemen

A request for the services of Negro policemen was also contained in the petition which said that many of the Negroes live in densely populated underprivileged or slum areas and the crime rate, with special reference to homicide is increasing rapidly.

"We advocate for these areas, especially, the use of Negro police officers who through contact and a more intimate knowledge of their people can more easily detect the criminal element in our group and thereby give more general satisfaction in eliminating crime among our young people."

"According to population and consumption ratios, Columbia Negroes should compose in a government democracy approximately one-third of the city's police force. We are asking that the municipal civil service be opened to Negroes and that Negroes be placed in the predominantly Negro districts of this city. In this connection, a respectable and logical appeal was made to the city fathers in council session only to be met by the retort from one councilman that "I am not in favor of a Negro policeman in Columbia as long as a white man wants the job."

On Military Policemen

"At the same time, military policemen in company with civilian policemen were entering places of business legally owned and operated by Negroes, wielding their clubs over the heads of patrons and otherwise molesting, abusing and embarrassing them. Likewise, Negro men have been searched and beaten and our women have been beaten and kicked by these combined forces. We know that the federal government does not allow intervention by military police except in cases of martial law or war. Neither of these situations obtains in Columbia. Hence, the agents of the federal government are violating the personal rights of bonafide citizens of this nation. The law of commonsense alone tells each of

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SOUTH CAROLINA

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
April 4, 1941.

April Bride-Elect.

MRS. Earl Allison Howies entertained last evening at an informal party at her home on Westmoreland avenue in honor of Miss Lula Byars, whose marriage to Leon Vilbert Bost will take place April 6 at high noon.

The home was attractively arranged with mixed flowers using a color-note of yellow and white. Bingo and other games were played.

The bride-elect was presented an honor gift by her hostess and a lingerie shower.

An ice course with accessories was served. Mrs. Howie was assisted in entertaining by Mrs. Wal-

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Race Police Could Reduce Race Crime, N. Y. Law Enforcer Says

CHARLESTON, S. C. (SNS) — Were local colored men added to the Charleston police force crime among race members could be greatly reduced, was the opinion of officer Benjamin Wallace of the 32 precinct, New York City, vacationing here for a few days with full pay as the house guest of his sister in law, Mrs. Daisy Jones, of 58-B Coming street.

Having attended local schools, officer Wallace has not been back to the city for several years. His salary is \$250 monthly and he is but one of 235 Negro policemen on the New York force.

He gave the following summary of Negroes activity in the city government of the metropolis:

235 policemen, 5 motorcycle officers, 1 traffic patrolman, 5 sargeant Special Session court, 3 assistant district attorneys and 3 policewomen. His beat is from 135 to 38 streets in New York and he resides at 54 Hamilton Terrace.

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South Carolina

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
February 26, 1941

Negro Police Officers

Use of "Fee Officers" Is Suggested
as a Crime Solution

To The Editor of The Chattanooga Times:

Just a few words about the high rate of homicide among Negroes in Chattanooga; I think Dr. N. B. Callier hit the high points as to suggestions for remedies for this most unbearable evil. I do feel that these remedies that Dr. Callier mentions will take care of this deplorable situation. I remember a few years ago we had quite a number of fee officers who traveled the streets and alleys evening and night and would see that no disturbance was created. Of course they were commonly called fee grabbers, but at any rate, you hardly ever heard of a homicide among Negroes in Chattanooga.

I do not believe in fee grabbing at all, but I do believe that if we had some high-class men as fee officers who only want justice to prevail, it would go a long way toward helping to cut out this high homicide rate among Negroes, and would serve to check other unlawful behavior in Chattanooga.

I have been in several cities about the size of Chattanooga, but Chattanooga is the only city where people can walk all night long with nowhere in particular to go without being arrested for prowling. These are some of the things that cause homicide and burglarizing on Ninth Street and several other streets. You can find gangs congregated there using all kinds of bad language, having no respect for anyone. Quite often you see them with long knives in their hands, some with pistols, both men and women. They are treacherous and ready to stab or shoot. Others walk from one place of ill-fame to another, and quite a few of the all-night prowlers are in their tender teens. I still believe high-class fee officers would see that these all-night drinking parties are cut out.

Please do not misunderstand me; I am not at all in favor of fee grabbing. But we are tired of reading the papers each week that some Negro was murdered. I say again that if we can get some white and colored officers who really want this evil stopped, then I believe it can be done.

WILLIAM E. THORNHILL.

Knoxville, Tenn., Times
October 24, 1941

Four Urgent Needs Listed By Negro League Here

Four "urgent needs" of Knoxville were outlined by the Negro Progressive League Tuesday night.

The league asks: (1.) An increase in the number of Negro policemen. (2.) A share in city appropriations in proportion to Negro population. (3.) Employment of Negroes by the Police and Fire Departments to serve in Negro sections. (4.) Better streets and better lighting in Negro areas.

Committees on Negro registration reported "we will be at the polls in large numbers election day." Poll tax was criticized but committeemen said many Negroes hold receipts and "indications are" Negroes exempt because of age will be active.

The Negro Progressive League was formally organized about three weeks ago and representatives come from all Negro wards in the city. The group meets weekly at headquarters on East Vine Avenue.

Nashville, Tenn., Banner
November 18, 1941

Board Gives OK on Street Decorations

The Board of Public Works in regular session today authorized Nashville Associated Retailers to proceed with their usual Christmas decoration of streets under the supervision of the chief building inspector and the chief electrical inspector of the city.

The Office of Production Management is still maintaining its ban on the use of electricity for decorative lighting, however, and this resolution of the board may be superseded by the OPM order. The order was given by OPM several weeks ago as a part of its program for power conservation for national defense uses.

The board also adopted a resolution hiring L. J. King and King Mathews as playground workers to be paid from the Special Playground Equipment Fund obtained from the collection of wine and whisky inspection fees. The playground program was finished last month. The board resolution did not explain the reason for the employment of the two men for a program that has already been concluded.

The board authorized taking bids for the purchase of 1,450 porcelain traffic signs to be installed throughout the city.

A delegation of Negro women from the Nashville Federation of Colored Women's Clubs petitioned the board to man two of three proposed fire halls with Negro firemen. The delegation asked that a fire hall in North Nashville and one in West Nashville, to be constructed if and when funds are made available from a proposed bond issue, be designated as Negro firehalls. The delegation did not understand that the firehalls to be constructed are not new designations but buildings to replace firehalls that have been condemned.

Luther Luton, member of the Board in charge of the Fire Department, said that he did not believe that it would be possible to comply with the request since the proposed buildings are merely replacements and the stations to be replaced are now manned by white firemen.

Mayor Thomas L. Cummings called attention to a mistake in calculation inadvertently made yesterday in THE BANNER's story describing the unexplained and continuous increase in the city's pay roll load.

The total budget payment for salaries for October was stated in the story to be "\$294,877.21." The figure should have been \$194,877.21. Through an error in subtracting last month's total for salaries from the total for the three months, the higher figure appeared. Mayor Cummings made no denial of the conclusion that his administration is now allowing a regular monthly increase in the pay roll load to continue without check.

For the first quarter of the current fiscal year the pay rolls have been as follows: August, \$183,945; September, \$187,432; October, \$194,877.21, for a total for the quarter, according to the comptroller's figures, of \$566,254.79, or an average per month of \$188,751.59. Over a

period of three months the pay roll load has been increased in the amount of \$10,932.11, and unless checked will reach a total at the end of the year of \$2,265,019 out of a budget for all ordinary purposes of only \$2,722,523.97.

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Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
March 6, 1941

Negro Police Officers

They Are Favored by Officer of
Young Men's Co-Operative Club
To The Editor of The Chattanooga Times:

To my mind uniformed Negro officers for thickly settled Negro districts would tend to maintain a respect for law and order that you couldn't get or expect from any type of fee officer. It is true that at one time the city of Chattanooga upheld such practices that have long since been abolished. Any type of fee-grabbing would be an evil within itself. And most of the citizens of Chattanooga I venture to say believe that to be a fact. And just a few years back our citizens proved that at the polls.

And I feel that any such practices as these regardless of any plane you may imagine them would be a stumbling block rather than an idea that may lead to a solution.

To suggest this evil practice would certainly be of no credit to our people or to our city.

Personally I don't believe in fee-grabbing and I don't believe the majority of the Negroes do and I certainly don't suggest it as a solution to the crime problem.

CHARLES B. MATHIS, SR.

Secretary, Young Men's Cooperative Club
Chattanooga.

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HOUSTON MAY HAVE MORE NEGRO POLICE

HOUSTON—(A N P)—Chief of Police Ray Ashworth, recent appointee here, told members of an interracial committee of the chamber of commerce this week that the force of Negro policemen in the city will likely be increased in the future. The committee had indicated at other meetings that more were needed. MAY 3 1941

Appointments to the force, whether white or black, will be made from civil service lists, Chief Ashworth stated, "I am confident that no inquiry will show any item of mistreatment of Negroes by me or my department," the chief said. MAY 3 1941

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Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

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Norfolk, Va. Plot
July 29, 1941

Negro Policemen

From the Charlotte Observer

By the appointment of two Negro policemen, the City Council has made what many expect will be, and all of our good citizens should hope will prove to be, a good, constructive move in the interest of the preservation of a better degree of law and order.

It is an experiment for which the city hall authorities deserve to be complimented for their courage in promoting. Courage, for that matter, is one vital quality in which the present council has shown itself to abound in previous actions, and for the displaying of which there should be no eyebrow lifting in this case.

Much, as we have already commented, will depend upon the character of the appointees as to whether or not the innovation turns out to be satisfactory and a contributing factor toward the deterrence of crime among the Negro population.

In the case of the two men named, the council had the benefit of the judgment of some of the best people of that race who are as interested in this project as any of the whites and who are jealous in seeing that the enterprise succeeds.

The councilmen, therefore, have reason to feel that they have done their utmost in securing the officers who have been appointed and now the pressure goes over to the shoulders of these two men. It is up to them to prove the theory.

This newspaper bespeaks for the experiment the patience and assisting, co-operative sentiments of all our people who sense the need for radical effort in behalf of crime control in Charlotte and that support in public sentiment upon which its success or failure will largely turn.

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Afro-American Baltimore, Maryland W.Va. ex-Grid Star Named to Police Force

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — Joseph Coleman, 1935 graduate and former football star at Douglass High School, was recently named a member of the police force by Mayor Swann.

Coleman, who served nineteen months in the CCC where he attained the rank of sergeant, had been employed at the International Nickel Company plant here for the past two years.

WEST VIRGINIA